We have all experienced lift at some point in our lives: a teacher recognizing our interests and encouraging us on a path; a friend making us feel heard, loved for who we are, and supported; a financial investment in our idea or the confidence of an employer. Extremely marginalized communities have few listeners who can help them. They often have no electricity, running water, or access to the internet. For women and girls, they often have limited power, resources, or education. Persistent poverty thrives in persistent marginalization. At World Connect, we find visionaries in the most challenging environments, we listen to their ideas, and we connect them to the resources they seek to fulfill their vision. Our resources have lifted hundreds of local leaders across the globe and 1.6 million lives now know new hope and agency. With new confidence from receiving funding, new respect from their communities for their vision, and evidence that their communities benefit from their ideas, new and powerful leaders emerge to usher in vital global progress. This is lift.
MISSION
World Connect invests in grassroots, locally designed and led projects that drive self-sustaining development in health, education, the environment, and economic opportunity in the most under-resourced areas of the world.

VISION
We envision a world of equity, where disparities are eliminated and global communities become independent from aid, demonstrating the strength of human connection and capacity.

WHO WE ARE
World Connect is a US-based nonprofit that invests in locally-led development across the Global South. Our purpose is to connect resources to the resourceful and launch South-led progress in health, education, the environment, and economic development. Our grantmaking addresses the power imbalance in international development by giving directly to driven, creative local leaders and community-based organizations, most of whom have never received international funding before. Through our established network of field partners, we find and fund resourceful and trusted local leaders whose ideas are needed and wanted by communities. We keep application and reporting processes simple to move at the more urgent pace our global challenges demand, and as a result, our projects lead to swift, cost-effective, and sustainable progress.
Dear Friend of World Connect,

If you knew us when we launched, you know that the cornerstone of our philosophy has always been valuing local capacity. Knowing us today, you see that we have stayed the course, funding 1,550 locally-led projects across 40 countries that are bringing development—water, safer childbirth, improved sanitation, new classrooms and libraries, and growing businesses—to communities through their own ingenuity and leadership.

If you have traveled with us, you have seen how much further a dollar goes when deployed locally. You have experienced the pride of our local partners, 80% of them first-time grant recipients. They appreciate our belief and trust in them and their increased confidence as leaders is a key element in their, and our, success.

If you have met Elvis Ndanssi (see page 21), a Cameroonian nurse, you have heard how he scraped together resources to set up three micro-clinics, and how he then tried unsuccessfully for eleven years to obtain external funding to expand his work. In 2018, Elvis found World Connect. That same year, World Connect gave Elvis his first grant of $3,700 to build a maternity clinic, followed by an additional $8,000 to provide new equipment. 150 women have already delivered babies in his clinic and have paid 60% less for ultrasound exams than is charged at other health facilities. Hundreds more will benefit in the coming year. After working with World Connect, Elvis went on to be named one of twelve inaugural Obama Scholars.

Whether you have been with us from the start or are just joining us now, thank you. The stakes are high and urgent, with a growing global population, increasing economic inequality, and climate change. We hope you enjoy learning about the fifteen projects in this report, and the changes they have brought about in communities the world over. Please help us catalyze more local momentum—your support will bring a “lift” to every corner of the globe.

Gratefully,

Pamela Nathenson
Executive Director

George Biddle
Chairman

Pamela Nathenson
Executive Director
World Connect has launched 1,550 projects with $5.1M across 40 countries impacting more than 1.6M people.

This is what progress looked like in 2018:

- 17,008 people see improved waste management in their communities. Investment: $2.54/person
- 17,008 people see improved waste management in their communities. Investment: $2.54/person
- 4,886 people gained access to clean water. Investment: $11.95/person
- 4,886 people gained access to clean water. Investment: $11.95/person
- 8,424 women see improved pre- and post-natal health services. Investment: $7.99/woman
- 8,424 women see improved pre- and post-natal health services. Investment: $7.99/woman
- 4,046 people with increased access to toilets and improved sanitation. Investment: $16.78/person
- 4,046 people with increased access to toilets and improved sanitation. Investment: $16.78/person
- 2,472 young women & girls regained 8,992 school days because of menstrual health projects. Investment: $7.91/female
- 2,472 young women & girls regained 8,992 school days because of menstrual health projects. Investment: $7.91/female
- 1,843 women increased their income from launching new businesses. Investment: $61.43/woman
- 1,843 women increased their income from launching new businesses. Investment: $61.43/woman

64% of projects women-led.
I couldn’t believe that World Connect would trust people that have never been funded before. There are few organizations that can trust people — give you money, trust your leadership, let you do the project the way you’re thinking about it. So the difference between World Connect and other organizations is that they put trust in people.

— Alain Tenta, Project Leader Dzaleka Refugee Camp, Malawi
Partnering with World Connect on #StopPneumonia was perhaps the best thing that happened to that community and our organization at the time. We and the people of Idi-Araba Community have World Connect to thank immensely.

– Dr. Yusuf Shittu, Project Leader

Parents, now free from the emotional, financial, and physical strain of chronic pneumonia and related effects, can be more economically productive, and children can stay in school.

202 children were screened for pneumonia, 100 treated, and 70 vaccinated for free. Every child reached by the project was given a hygiene pack with toilet paper, soaps, antiseptics, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.

With an investment of $3,015 from World Connect, a young medical doctor, Yusuf Shittu, organized a community health education campaign to increase awareness and vaccination against pneumonia among the 2,000 community members of Idi-Araba, Lagos, Nigeria.

In Nigeria, pneumonia has replaced malaria as the number one killer of children under five, claiming 18% of all under-five deaths.

In 2018, World Connect invested $189,269.15 in 38 projects that increased access to healthcare for 57,532 women, men, and children across 15 countries.
Globally, an extra year of schooling for a girl increases her future earnings by 15%, reduces fertility rates by 7.5%, and decreases rates of teen pregnancy.

Teachers run weekly programming designed to keep female students engaged by using literature as a catalyst to think critically. The group discusses reading material designed to enhance learning, strengthen leadership skills, shift perspectives on gender roles, and promote resilience.

With an investment of $4,447 from World Connect, a nine-month literacy promotion program at Kabuga High School, “Her Voice Matters”, targeted girls at risk of dropping out. The project was led by Generation Rise, a community-based organization.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, there are 2 million more girls than boys out of lower secondary school.

In 2018, World Connect invested $201,280 in 50 education projects, increasing opportunities for 15,000 people across 17 countries.

I now know that I can be a leader of people starting with me. Seeing the reading corner, I was very surprised. It is better than I could have ever imagined. I expect to learn a lot, especially English, listening, and public speaking.

— Uwamahoro Queen Josiane, Project Participant

Uwamahoro Queen Josiane, Project Participant

MAKING HERSTORY
Rwanda

This project was sourced by Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Julia Crandell.
Having computers builds student confidence – they belong to a school that has computers! It makes them feel special. It takes away any inferiority complex.
– Clement Boamah, Project Leader

Konadu Foundation is bridging the digital divide, equipping students with skills they need to succeed in the digital economy.

At the computer lab, students access e-books, including textbooks, as well as language learning software.

With an investment of $5,444 from World Connect in the Konadu Foundation, a primary school in the Brong Ahafo region of Ghana, a computer lab was built and equipped. Konadu Foundation was founded in 2010 with just two students and now have more than 100.

There will be 230 million digital jobs in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2030. In Ghana, nearly 20% of companies recruit only internationally for digital skills, largely because they cannot find skilled local talent.

In 2018, World Connect invested $36,989 in 10 projects across 9 countries to provide 6,070 learners with tech resources so they can develop skills and knowledge essential in a digital world.

COMPUTERS FOR CONFIDENCE
Ghana
This project was sourced by Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Michael McGaskey.
After applying for funding for 11 years, World Connect was the first to invest in Elvis’ vision of accessible and better quality healthcare in remote and marginalized communities in Cameroon. In 2018, Elvis was named an inaugural Obama Foundation Scholar, and spent the 2018-2019 academic year at Columbia University studying sustainability, social impact campaigns, and global health and diplomacy.

World Connect made a second investment of $8,000 to install an ultrasound machine in the maternity ward. 150 babies have since been safely delivered at the clinic, 176 mothers received prenatal care, and 75 women received an ultrasound. Women visiting the clinic pay 60% less for ultrasound compared to other health facilities.

With an investment of $3,673 from World Connect, Elvis Ndansi, a nurse and founder of United for Health Foundation in Cameroon, equipped a maternity ward at one of the three micro health clinics he established over the past decade.

Cameroon is among the 20 countries in the world with the highest child mortality rates for children under the age of five.

In 2018, World Connect invested $36,984 in 6 health clinics to establish new or improved maternity wards, increasing access to safe birthing for 3,365 women.

Before [pregnant women] had to travel long distance on motorbikes to access a maternity service where they could give birth, but today, even during labor, these pregnant women at Eloumden community can even walk to Unite For Health Foundation clinic and give birth in the hands of safe health personnel. This could only have been possible with World Connect.

– Elvis Ndansi, Project Leader
Now that most of us have been successful thanks to the Dollies project and have made a profit from selling the milk and reinvested in roses and strawberries cultivation, let’s not forget the other less fortunate women in the community. We have redistributed the dollies to the most vulnerable and are investing to build a yogurt and cheese factory in order to help the most vulnerable make a profit too!

– Lusmila Reinoso, Project Leader

Lusmila Reinoso, the manager of El Lecherito, used her increased income from this project to invest in new business opportunities in 2018. She now owns the largest rose greenhouse in her community, with 13,000+ roses growing annually. Lusmila’s income is now 72 times what it was before the launch of the dolly project.

The dollies helped El Lecherito to produce six times as much milk, increasing the average income tenfold for 40 women.

With an investment of $2,520 from World Connect, El Lecherito, a women’s dairy association in San Pablito De Agualongo, built 20 dollies to carry milk jugs as far as two miles to a central processing facility for sale. Previously, the women were carrying the jugs on their backs uphill, and many women experienced chronic pain, injuries, and decreased earnings.

In Ecuador, women work 23 hours more per week and earn 20% less than men.

In 2018, World Connect invested $62,939 in 16 women’s cooperative projects across 7 countries that led 4,456 women to increase their income.
Addressing diarrheal disease allowed Knach Romeas community to further focus on improvements in academic settings. In 2018, with a third investment of $14,996, the community built a new library and a teacher’s office at the the Knach Romeas Secondary School, as well as implemented a filtered water system at Kors Ream Primary School. 721 students and 30 teachers at the Secondary School now have a space dedicated to improving reading, and 442 students at the Primary School will soon have a biosand water filter supplying clean drinking water.

World Connect invested an additional $4,050 in 2017 for the Knach Romeas Primary School, Balang Meancheay Primary School, and Chroy Sna Primary School for a total of 442 students and eliminate open-defecation and learning disruptions, as students would previously leave school and travel far to find a toilet.

In 2015, World Connect invested $10,900 in Knach Romeas Commune, Cambodia to construct nine wells and handwashing stations that supply the health center and eight primary schools with potable water. 2,300+ people now utilize the new water resources and the Health Center reports improved health in primary school children.

In Cambodia, seven in ten pre-primary schools do not have access to toilets or handwashing stations and one in three Cambodians use unsafe water for drinking and daily use.

In 2018, World Connect invested $56,794 in 13 schools and communities across 7 countries to improve or establish libraries, supporting improvements in reading performance for more than 10,000 students.
AGUA IN THE AMAZON
Ecuador

This project was sourced by Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Tammy Truong.

Some say that the community breaks out the champagne, actually chichi, in gratitude of the work done. In my opinion, it’s not in gratitude, it’s more in celebration of what we have accomplished together. To me, there is a difference. Gratitude feels more like they have to say thanks for a gift given. Celebration, that is a team working together, celebrating their victory.

– Tammy Truong, Field Partner

Relief from waterborne illness enables community members to increase their time spent on harvesting, educating their children, and increasing their income in other ways.

Their success and quick, effective implementation caught the attention of the local government, which the community had been working to obtain for more than 20 years. The government and another local organization have agreed to fund an additional $2,500 to install another water tank and provide piped water installation for all households.

With an investment of $5,000 from World Connect, the indigenous Kichwa community of Selva Amazonica installed a water collection and purification system in 14 months to provide clean water for its 300 people.

There are still 227 million people across Latin America who do not have access to a safely managed water supply. In Ecuador, 17% of children under 5 are affected by waterborne illnesses.

In 2018, World Connect invested $58,382 in 8 water projects across 5 countries, establishing access to clean, palatable water for 4,886 people.
This project gave the women of Kañina a platform to lead environmental awareness. The women held an environmental talk in the nearby town, Cebror. Inspired by this talk, women in Cebror decided to start their own environmental committee and to begin setting up their own trash and recyclables collections.

The Kañina women painted recycled materials to decorate the center and sell. The women also partnered with the local high school to promote recycling and many students now volunteer at the center. The Mayor of Buenos Aires, the largest nearby town, recognized the efficiency and effectiveness of the women’s organization. The city now collects trash and recycling every two weeks, whereas before the community had no trash collection services.

With an investment of $3,476, Kañina, a local indigenous women’s organization in Salitre, Costa Rica, built a community recycling center and planted a traditional herb garden surrounding the center.

In Costa Rica, there are about 61 women to every 100 men in the labor force, highlighting the gender inequity in the labor market that continues to exist.

In 2018, World Connect invested $43,335 in 12 waste management projects across 7 countries to support trash collection and recycling for 17,008 people.

The women in the group have seen the project as a reason to keep moving forward, and it has kept them motivated. More and more people that come to Salitre have commented that the community is very clean which makes us happy knowing that we’ve made a positive change to the community.

– Racquel Ortiz Ortiz, Project Leader

CLEANER & GREENER
Costa Rica
This project was sourced by Peace Corps Volunteer Edward Hayes.
This is the first time that I feel so concerned about developing a project. In general, in many projects that are settled in the village, we are completely excluded from their development. It is once the project installed, they give it to us and leave. In general, these types of projects do not last long in the village. But with the construction of this center, everything is different because we have faced challenges and obstacles together and we will continue to do so.

– Seynabou Diatta, Project Participant

The women of Yoon Dioffor have a chance to become economically independent and increase their cooperative’s revenue by 80%.

With no space to work and store their products, the women are exposed to sun, rain and wind, and their unprotected oyster shells get damaged, resulting in an estimated 50% inefficiency in production.

With an investment of $4,265 from World Connect in 2018, Yoon Dioffor, a women’s community organization in Nema Bah, Senegal is building a processing center to produce cement from oysters shells and to produce natural soaps.

If current gender parity rates continue, it will take sub-Saharan Africa 135 years to close their gender wage gap.

In 2018, World Connect invested $143,450 in 40 women’s economic opportunities across 14 countries to improve market linkages and productivity for 7,671 women.
This project strengthened my leadership skills in accountability of public affairs, to be responsible. It is obvious that this project showed that women are valued and increased their confidence to contribute in the country’s development. Finally, women are free from the rain, stable and doing formal business. We believe that in coming years we won’t be vulnerable but development partners.

— Uwimana Speciose, Project Leader

With an average of 4,000 visitors a day to the market, the women’s new infrastructure has legitimized their business and increased their income six times. According to the local health center, the public latrines reduced diarrheal disease 89% since they were built.

In 2018, with a second investment of $6,241, the women constructed public latrines, a trash receptacle, and a compost area near the market center.

World Connect invested $4,915 in the women of Mburamazi Market in 2017 to construct a covered stand to protect their produce from inclement weather, improving product shelf life, earning them more, and reducing their fines from local authorities for appearing informally organized.

The informal sector is one of the biggest employers in Africa, providing employment to the vulnerable. Almost 9 in 10 rural and urban workers on the continent have informal jobs, and most of these are women and youth.

In 2018, World Connect invested $59,274 in 6 communities for the second time to catalyze additional development.
Greetings from Malawi,

As a Malawian, I am honored to welcome you all to the Malawi section of our 2018 Annual Report, the first of its kind. At the beginning of 2018, World Connect was awarded funding from USAID Local Works to deploy its unique grassroots model in Malawi for three years. In June 2018, I was hired as World Connect’s in-country Project Manager to lead the work. After 16 years of project and grant management experience in Malawi, six of those years spent working at the U.S. Embassy, I was compelled to take up this new and urgent challenge: to see development done differently.

At the outset, World Connect set a target of 20 projects for us to launch between July and December 2018 in partnership with grassroots organizations and local leaders across the country, demonstrating the capacity of local communities to identify their challenges and define their own solutions. By the close of 2018, we had launched 50 projects in Malawi with $210,607, exceeding the 2018 deliverable by 150%.

As Project Manager for Malawi, I love the model being championed by World Connect. Apart from unlocking people’s capacity to participate in their own development efforts, it catalyzes mindset change from receiving support directly to using their own available assets as tools for development. In just six months, we have seen communities achieving more with modest investments, especially compared to many large aid projects I’ve seen over the years. We have seen increased transparency as communities take charge of their grant budgets, and a greater level of ownership of projects and their longterm sustainability.

In a short period of time at World Connect, I have seen how the model is strengthening the capacity of Malawi’s young women and men, and tapping into their desire to be change agents in their own communities. I believe in three years we will have cultivated leaders who are poised to take the development of this country to another level. Above all, it is so fulfilling to see a model that can ensure communities realize their dreams, in as little as a month. World Connect, simply put, is the best model I have ever witnessed in my 16 years of development work.

Thank you to USAID for their generous support and for their shared vision that grassroots development can and should be locally-led. Thank you to the World Connect team for the great support that ensured our take off in Malawi was smooth. And thank you, readers, for choosing to be part of the locally-led development movement. Development is possible if it is locally-led, and when you talk of locally-led development, you are talking about World Connect.

Here’s to achieving much more in 2019,

Frank Charles Kasonga
Malawi Project Manager
When I came to Malawi, in the camp I did not know where to start. I did not have any vocational skill. Thanks to this tailoring training, I know how to sew. I believe that tomorrow I will be a great designer. I will get the certificate and help people. I will design clothes for community members and myself.

– Patient Mulunga Ngandwe, Project Participant

Since completing their training, 5 participants have secured jobs with a design and tailoring firm based in the camp, 8 have started their own tailoring businesses, and 4 have been retained by “We Can Make It Again” as instructors for the next cohort of trainees. On average, the participants are earning $40 per month of new income.

12 single mothers and 8 young people were trained in six months and have gained sewing and tailoring skills.

With an investment of $3,006 from World Connect, “We Can Make It Again”, an organization based in Dzaleka, launched a tailoring project to provide refugees with skills to earn more and be more self-reliant.

In Dzaleka Refugee Camp, Malawi, refugees struggle because they are not allowed to seek formal employment by law. Their main source of food comes from humanitarian assistance.

In 2018, World Connect has invested $226,000 in 65 skills and training projects across 16 countries, providing 9,020 people with employable skills.
Since construction completed, Salama Africa has hosted two shows, selling 400+ tickets to each. Salama Africa has also started planning their first festival, where they will showcase traditional dances and food from Congolese, Rwandan, Ethiopian, Somali, and Burundian refugees. Through their shows, selling their art, and renting out the center, they aim to earn $3,000/month.

The success and energy behind the project allowed Salama Africa to leverage its World Connect grant into an additional $16,000 from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to build an even more expansive vision of the creative arts center than they originally planned. It includes an art classroom, a public performance space, an office space for performers, and a room they hope to turn into a recording studio.

With an investment of $8,553 from World Connect in 2018, Salama Africa, a refugee founded and led organization at Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi, built a creative arts center to teach and promote creativity, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

Only half of refugee children worldwide have access to school or an educational outlet.

In 2018, World Connect funded 30 education infrastructure projects with $140,104 improving the education environment and access to education across 11 countries for 17,520 students.

I really like the philosophy of World Connect. When they say small investment, quick implementation, and big impact. This is what’s happening here and we will go further.
– Amadou Ba, Field Partner
GREEN VILLAGE
Malawi

This project was sourced by Global Health Corps Alumni Hector Chilimani.

It has been helpful a lot. It helped us during a funeral vigil where we had some lighting at night. It’s possible to do chores and move around at night because the light is portable and I can carry it with me. My children can study at night, they even invite their friends and spend time together at night because there is light. I also like the new type of gardening and am looking forward to see how I can do my gardening in that way as well.

– Kettie Ndlovu, Project Participant

In Mzuzu, small business owners can increase productivity and revenue through extended business hours.

In addition, they are helping to establish 500 household gardens for their clients, so that families can sell vegetables to pay for their solar products, for additional income generation, and for improved nutrition. This social enterprise project is expected to impact over 1,000 households in the next two years.

With an investment of $7,500 from World Connect, the Center for Child Development and Research in Mzuzu, Malawi established a solar products enterprise. Their products, such as solar lights and solar phone chargers, are being sold to community members and local businesses on a pay-as-you-go basis, where clients are charged only for what they use.

In Malawi, 96.1% of rural households don’t have electricity.

World Connect invested $57,072 in 2018 to support 10 communities’ access to alternative energy sources across 5 countries.
The project gained national attention when Noriah was awarded ‘startupper of the year’ and an additional $12,500 to put into this social enterprise initiative. All $12,500 was reinvested back into the cooperative with growth as the main objective.

On average, the women increased their income 100%, selling 225 kilograms of moringa powder at market generating $125 per month.

With a $3,306 investment from World Connect in 2018, Noriah Katungwe, a Global Health Corps Alumna in Mangan-ga, Salima, Malawi, organized a cooperative of 50 women to cultivate, process, and take to market highly nutritious moringa tree leaves, to generate income and combat malnutrition locally. Before this project, moringa was growing wildly in the area, making it an underutilized resource.

Malawi has made progress in human development over the past decade, but it remains one of the poorest countries in the world. More than half the population lives in poverty, and 25% live in extreme poverty.

41% of first-time entrepreneurial venture projects have leveraged additional investments to scale after receiving seed investment from World Connect.
Above all, the speed at which [World Connect] replied to our request and mobilized resources for this project is unimaginable. World Connect is the best organization that listens to the needs and aspirations of communities.
– Gladys Chikumbutso, Project Participant

World Connect projects often have unexpected knock-on impacts. With its more secure water source, Mtema is now expected to be included in a three-year, $150,000 food security and irrigation project from Churches Action in Relief and Development.

The provision of a sustainable water access point in this community has also resulted in a meaningful increase of women in economic activities, including four new village savings and loan groups that have been formed since women are no longer spending so much time queuing for water. Also, 15 girls between the ages of 9-14 have been re-enrolled in school, as they no longer need to skip classes to wait in line for water for their families.

Within a month of receiving an investment of $6,336 from World Connect, the Village Development Committee in Mtema, Malawi oversaw the drilling of a new community borehole, which is providing clean and potable water to 1,200 people. There have been no cases of water-borne diseases reported in the community for more than six months since the installation of the borehole.

Safe drinking water is recognized as a basic human right, however, two-thirds of the world’s population experience severe water scarcity at least one month out of the year, and over 2 billion people live in countries experiencing high water stress.

In 2018, World Connect funded 4 clean water projects in Malawi with $25,526, providing 2,760 people with access to clean drinking water.
MEET JENNY AND TONY MCAULIFFE

Jenny and Tony McAuliffe joined the World Connect community as donors in 2016 with small initial project restricted gifts. With their support, World Connect funded the installation of a tank at a health center in Cambodia that sees 300-450 births per year and trained 15 health workers in improved sanitation methods. Families previously needed to bring water with them to the health center.

“The water tank has improved sanitation in the delivery room and the midwives are able to properly clean their equipment after deliveries.” - Soy, Project Leader

In the same year, Jenny and Tony also supported the construction of a girls secondary school dormitory in Tanzania. The school reports that the dormitory is at full capacity with 124 girls boarding. Previously girls were at risk of sexual assault as they walked to and from school. Increasing access to education for girls is correlated with greater economic opportunity for women.

In 2017, Jenny and Tony made a larger project restricted donation to support one project in Haiti and another in Cameroon. With their funding, World Connect launched a women’s empowerment project in Haiti that created three Community Savings and Credit Associations targeting 56 direct beneficiaries, 75% of which were women. This has given members the opportunity to save and build, and has given them access to credit in order to develop and finance their own income-generating activities. 13 new income generating activities (micro enterprises) have been created and as a result more families can feed and educate their children.

“I was a jobless woman with 3 children whose father died. Thanks to the project, I have developed my own income generating activity: I have been coached to create a community restaurant.” - Elisa, project participant

Jenny joined World Connect in Zambia and Malawi to visit 8 projects.

The second project World Connect was able to fund with their support in 2017 was a technology training program for women and girls in Cameroon. Phase one involved the technology skill training of 30 women and 25 girls and phase two will involve the development of a cyber cafe. The recent civil war in Cameroon has delayed the full realization of this project, but the progress made despite the circumstances is impressive.

In 2018, Jenny and Tony made a substantial unrestricted donation to World Connect, which enabled the launch of 15 new projects.

“A contribution to World Connect is a sensible investment in humanity. The tying of donations to specific, productive and sustainable projects means I can make an impact where and on what kind of project, at a level I choose. World Connect is unusual in its rigorous process of identifying and monitoring projects sponsored by, and which make a significant difference in, the communities and people they serve.”

– Jenny and Tony McAuliffe

Visiting Malawi and Zambia and seeing the projects firsthand, the impact and dedication of the community’s project sponsors and managers, and hearing directly from the participants about the difference the project made in their lives, is both powerful and humbling.

– Jenny McAuliffe
Amalie was a mother, grandmother, historian, author, teacher and philanthropist. In addition to that, she was a founder of World Connect. Amalie first joined the World Connect family in 2008, backing the organization when it initially focused on improving the health of mothers and babies in the Dominican Republic. Even as the organization grew beyond its original model, she continued to support our work.

"Amalie was a touchstone for me since the moment I joined the organization in 2012. Her sharp mind, big heart, and fierce advocacy for women and children ensured that World Connect was and continues to be a powerful force for progress," said Pamela Nathenson, World Connect’s Executive Director. "I am grateful for every moment spent in her warm and wise company and honored that World Connect can be a part of her extraordinary legacy."

Over a period of 10 years, Amalie donated $600,000 to World Connect and was particularly proud of the success stories of women defying the odds of their circumstances. Amalie was proud of a project launched in Kenya that stopped the trading of sex for fish on the shores of Lake Victoria, where women had traditionally used sex as leverage to get the food they needed to feed their families. With an initial investment of $3,400, the women’s association built four boats for local women to own and operate, immediately shifting gender and power dynamics so that women were no longer currency, but boat owners. World Connect made two more investments with grants totaling $14,300, leading to 10 more boats built. We are told by the women in the community that the practice of jaboya has nearly disappeared, HIV transmission rates have been reduced, and women are more economically secure.

Amalie will be missed dearly by the World Connect community and we are grateful for her generous foundational support.

Women triumphing against the odds was a cause my Mom could always get behind. World Connect has funded 700 women as project leaders over the last 10 years and launched 200 projects focused on women-led business. World Connect projects have impacted the lives of 616,000 women and girls and counting. My Mom was proud of the investment she made in World Connect and in the many brave women around the world whom she helped catalyze to achieve their dreams.

– Rob Hecht, Board Member, son of Amalie
WORLD CONNECT

Jennifer and Jack Sullivan
Margaret and Andrew Schilling
JJ Ramberg and Scott Glass
George Montgomery
Virginia and Timothy Millhiser
Sang Lee and Christopher Mansfield
Annie and Ned Lamont
Catherine and Philip Korsant
Anne Gilson
Christina and R.L. Dougherty
Betsy and Donald Daniel
Tina and Clive Cowdery
Nancy Corliss and Jordan Busch
Alison and Christopher Cabot
Kim and Paul Broder
Barbara and Michael Eisenson
Patrick Healy
Edwina and James Hunt
Shelly and Tony Malkin
Marilyn and Jim Simons
Shelly and Tony Malkin
Laura and Scott Malkin
William O’Farrell
Marilyn and Jim Simons
Shelly and Tony Malkin

$5,000-$9,999

Kim Sockwell Davis and Glen Davis
Megan and Christopher Scott
Luly and Maurice Samuels
William O’Farrell
Sara Boillot
Frank Blanchette
The Blanchard Family
Nico Berenson

$10,000-$24,999

Marilyn and Jim Simons
Shelly and Tony Malkin
Edwina and James Hunt
Patrick Healy
Barbara and Michael Eisenson
Heather and Andrew Boyd

$25,000-$49,999

Maura McCarthy and Bill Haney
Jennifer and Jason Haas
F. Bennett Cushman II and Marcus Lovell Smith
Stephanie Cabot and Joan Bingham
Clara Bingham and Joe Finnerty
Robert Lopez
Kristen Anderson Lopez and Robert Lopez
Glenda and John Burkhart
Sara Boillot
Frank Blanchette
The Blanchard Family
Nico Berenson

$100,000+

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Glenda and John Burkhart
Sara Boillot
Frank Blanchette
The Blanchard Family
Nico Berenson

$500-$999

Helen Tsanos Sheinman and Maureen and Michael Terris
RC Schmults
Martha and Paul Samuelson
RC Schmults
Maureen and Michael Terris
Ellen O’Connell
Jonathan Mayers
Claire and Christopher Mann
Brooke Alden Russell
Advika Agarwaal
Michelle and Christopher Daniel
Mimi and Michael Boublik
Gabrielle and Peter Daniel
Mimi and Michael Boublik
Michael Brown
Tyler Bollier
Garlinda Birkbeck
Judy and Rody Biggert
Garlinda Birkbeck
Tara Sher and Kelly Currie
Mark Shime
Sarah and David Stack
Martine Vice-Holter
Lauren Viray
Peter Wilson
Becky Yi

$1,000-$2,499

Stephanie Cabot and Joan Bingham
Nancy and George Rupp
Ellen O’Connell
Jonathan Mayers
Claire and Christopher Mann
Brooke Alden Russell
Advika Agarwaal
Michelle and Christopher Daniel
Mimi and Michael Boublik
Michael Brown
Tyler Bollier
Garlinda Birkbeck
Judy and Rody Biggert
Garlinda Birkbeck
Tara Sher and Kelly Currie
Mark Shime
Sarah and David Stack
Martine Vice-Holter
Lauren Viray
Peter Wilson
Becky Yi

$2,500-$4,999

Anonymous
Mary Menell Zients and Jeffrey Zients
Natacha and Anthony Weiss
Mary Menell Zients and Jeffrey Zients
Anonymous

$3,500-$4,999

Averil Babson
Louise and Andrew Bedford
Desiree Bollier
Leslie and Jim Craig
Sarah-Jane Curtis
Jose Luis Duran
Regina Glockey
Lucie and Joy Herbert
Barbara Silber Lamont
Emanuelle Lepic
Patricia and Thomas Lightbown
Elizabeth Meyer
Sarah and Peter O’Hagan
Julia and Arthur “RG” Sømsen
Stephanie Hunt and Stephen Trevor

$1,000-$2,499

Patricia and John Adams
Heosin Aimin
Shikha and Ginn, Bhatoo
Mimi and Michael Boublik
Gabrielle and Peter Daniel
Michelle and Christopher Daniel
Alison Deans
Antonette Duley-Tiongco
Sarah Elon
Eliza Gerda and RA McDonough
Gregory Hackman
Pam and Steven Kerne
Nathaniel Lovell Smith
Elizabeth “Zabette” Macomber
Isabel and Peter Malkin
Claire and Christopher Mann
Jonathan Meyers
Jennifer Milacci and Mark Scher
Marco Nijhoff
Ellen O’Connell
Bartholomew Panarese
Nikil Patil
Katherine and Bo Peabody
Holly Peterson
Oliver Platt
Nancy and George Rupp
Mirtha and Paul Samuelson
RC Schmults
Maureen and Michael Terris
Helen Tsanos Steinmann and Andrew Sheinman
Gregory Widsworth

$500-$999

Nico Berenson
The Blanchard Family
Frank Blanchette
Sara Bollot
Glenda and John Burkhart
Sarah and Simon Collier
Adrienne and James Conzelman
Marion Cushman
Marcia Ely
Howard Fillit
Anne-Louise Fisher
Marianne Gimont and Alessandro d’Ansembourg
Dina Glassow
Dina Harding
Carole Hunt
Kristina and William Kenworthy
Patricia Kim
Deborah Lowerson
Diana and Chariton MacVeagh
Miranda Markham
Stephen Morrison
Judith Nathenson
Pamela Nathenson and Eyal Rimmon
Peter Newman
Liz Ott
Careen Pasquaile Seckler
Gina Podesta
Valerie Post
Dezana Radice
Paula and William Rand
Megan Shattuck
Tara Sher and Kelly Currie
Mark Shime
Sarah and David Stack
Martine Vice-Holter
Lauren Viray
Peter Wilson
Becky Yi

$1-$499

Becky Yi
Peter Wilson
Laurent Vinay
Martine Vice-Holter
Deana Radice
Valerie Post
Gina Podesta
Caren Pasquaile Seckler
Sarah Yi
Peter Wilson
Laurent Vinay
Martine Vice-Holter
Deana Radice
Valerie Post
Gina Podesta
Caren Pasquaile Seckler
Sarah Yi

$10,000-$24,999

Kim Sockwell Davis and Glen Davis
Megan and Christopher Scott
Kiskok-> Davis and Glen Davis
$5,000-$9,999

Nancy and Donald Daniel
Kairn Day Kingsley and Paul Kingsley
Christina and R.L. Dougherty
Anne Gilson
Catherine and Philip Korsant
Annie and Ned Lamont
Sang Lee and Christopher Mansfield
Elizabeth Littlefield and Matt Arnold
Carolyn Makinson and Terry Walker
Virginia and Timothy Millhiser
George Montgomery
Leisa and William Perry
JJ Ramborg and Scott Glass
Margaret and Andrew Schilling
Jennifer and Jack Sullivan

Attending our Annual Benefit Dinner in NYC allows guests, local leaders from our projects, and staff to be encapsulated by the good going on in our world and discuss how to best invest in a better tomorrow.
In 2018, we visited 50 projects across Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Kenya, Zambia, and Malawi to validate data, celebrate successes, re-affirm partnerships, and create tangible connections between investors and communities we fund. Most of the places we invest in are hard to reach so we celebrate and appreciate the intrepid spirits of our travelers. We are often told by our implementing partners that nobody comes to see how development money is spent. We show up. We have visited more than 40% of the projects we have launched.

On October 18th, The Bicester Village Shopping Collection hosted “Call My Bluff,” a wine tasting event for World Connect. The event kicked off World Connect’s growth into the UK.
On 18 October 2018 at the Royal Institute of British Architects, with immense thanks to The Bicester Village Shopping Collection, World Connect saw its United Kingdom benefit debut. The Bicester Village Shopping Collection hosted a charity wine tasting dinner raising £60,000, 100% of which launched 16 World Connect projects. The generosity from the evening directly funded the ideas of local leaders best positioned to drive self-sustaining development in communities across Ecuador, Nigeria, Senegal, Costa Rica, Ghana, and Cameroon. The 16 projects catalyzed progress for expecting mothers, aspiring entrepreneurs, and marginalized students. You can read about one of these projects on pages 30-31 of the Annual Report.

World Connect would especially like to thank The Bicester Village Shopping Collection event team for their leadership in producing a magnificent evening. Thanks to this effort and event, World Connect will be convening supporters annually in the United Kingdom. We deeply appreciate those who shared in our mission that night and those who have become part of our family of supporters.

Gratefully,
The World Connect Team
# 2018 Financial Statements

## ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$323,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>$370,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grant Receivable</td>
<td>$127,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>$19,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets: Website and Logo</td>
<td>$204,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,045,371</strong></td>
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</table>

## LIABILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>$19,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Payable</td>
<td>$239,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>$108,678</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due to Related Party</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$418,182</strong></td>
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## NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>$287,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>$339,623</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$627,189</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,045,371</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SUPPORT AND REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Grants</td>
<td>$1,264,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>$270,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Event Revenues</td>
<td>$254,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated/ln Kind Services</td>
<td>$134,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,923,715</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>$1,145,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Expenses</td>
<td>$244,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>$229,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,619,925</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Change in Net Assets

- Without Donor Restrictions: $323,610
- With Donor Restrictions: $370,439
- **Total Change in Net Assets**: $303,790

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2018 Annual Report

Photo: Christopher Scott
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Biddle  
Chairman

James Hunt  
Treasurer

Stephanie Cabot  
Secretary

John Adams  
John Coumantaros  
Christoph Becker  
Clara Bingham  
Courtenay Cabot Venton  
Glen Davis  
Julia Haney  
Robert Hecht  
Avinash Kaza  
Diane Lifton  
Carolyn Makinson  
JJ Ramberg  
Sean Reilly  
Jack Sullivan  
Ayanna Wayner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Pamela Nathenson, MPH