



GCWA Action at Country and Regional Level in 2005

In 2005, the Global Coalition provided catalytic funds to UN Theme Groups in seven countries, and supported regional efforts in the Mekong and the Middle East.

In **Kenya**, funds were used to map women's organizations as a resource for the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) and to establish a stakeholders' group to recommend specific actions to strengthen HIV programming for women and girls.

In **Uzbekistan**, the Coalition supported a survey of women's committees and local authorities which resulted in an upsurge of interest in women and AIDS at local and community level.

In **Lesotho**, funds helped mobilize civil society around the Coalition's seven key issues. Funds were also used to strengthen the Ministry of Gender and develop a gender action plan to be incorporated into the new National AIDS Strategy.

In **Vietnam**, UNAIDS partnered with the Vietnam Women's Union, which has a membership of 13 million women, to develop an HIV strategy.

In the **Mekong Region**, the Global Coalition provided support to the Asia-Pacific Leadership Forum to feature women and AIDS issues more prominently. Support also went to NGOs working with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to map promising programmes which combat violence against women and provide support to battered women, with a view to increasing government attention.

The Global Coalition has also focused on the nine **Southern African** countries covered by the UN Secretary General's Task Force on Women, Girls, and HIV/AIDS Report. The Report, launched in July 2004, found that although there was widespread awareness that AIDS was having a devastating impact on women in Southern Africa, very few leaders knew how to address it.

Since then the Global Coalition has supported action in these countries to:

- *Develop National Action Plans on women and AIDS in the nine focal countries*
- *Ensure that elements of these Plans are incorporated within National AIDS Strategies and operational plans*
- *Mobilize resources and build partnerships between government and civil society.*