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## UNFUNDED LIST

### HONOREE:

**Global Press Institute**

#### *Honoree Proposal Description:*

Global Press Institute exists to create a more just and informed world by employing local women journalists to produce ethical, accurate news coverage from the world's least-covered places.

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#### *Organization Website:*

<https://globalpress.co/>

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## Radical Hope Fund

Name: Global Press Institute & Accountability Lab

Website: [www.globalpressinstitute.org](http://www.globalpressinstitute.org) and [www.accountabilitylab.org](http://www.accountabilitylab.org)

Link to form: <https://novofoundation.org/radicalhope/apply/>

**1. Describe your organization or collaboration's mission, history/achievements, community/constituency you are accountable to, and overview of current work. (300 words or less) 299/300 [within form limit]**

Global Press (GP) is transforming the field of international journalism by training and employing local women in the world's least-covered places to produce ethical, accurate news. Since 2006, GP has operated a training program, Global Press Institute, an award-winning news publication, Global Press Journal, and an innovative syndication division, Global Press News Service.

Since 2012, Accountability Lab has been building a new generation of responsible citizens and leaders around the world by supporting them to develop and implement positive ideas for integrity in their communities. The Lab's approach involves providing the training, mentorship, networks and communications support these change-makers need to push for the reforms they want to see, and to build the communities around these ideas to make them sustainable.

Together, Global Press and Accountability Lab are working to create new systems and uses for locally-gathered data to enable a deeper understanding the world's most pressing problems.

Over the last 11 years, GP has trained 190 women, all of whom are offered long-term employment at Global Press Journal, where they work to produce integrity-rich journalism that features local voices and nuanced analysis. Our women-led journalism has won dozens of awards; created robust social impact, including changing laws and policies in several countries; and has provided millions of people the opportunity to live freer, fuller lives by providing them with authentic information.

The Accountability Lab is now working in 5 countries to gather citizen-generated data to ensure that development truly meets the needs of those most excluded from power and resources. The Lab has trained local staff, more than 60 percent of whom are women, and who are collecting and verifying data to improve decision-making and close the feedback loop on critical problems. This data has been used by over 50 local and international organizations including Oxfam and UNICEF.

**2. Explain the issue(s)/problem your organization/collaboration works on, including what specific issue(s) or challenges this project seeks to address. (300 words or less) 296/300 [within form limit]**

GP is working to solve two of the most entrenched problems in journalism — its lack of diversity across geographies, race, class and gender; and the absence of ethical business models that create sustainable news organizations. Foreign correspondence fosters inaccurate disaster-oriented views of developing communities. In the last 30 years, the failing business model of legacy journalism and high cost of foreign correspondence have resulted in 70 percent of foreign bureaus closing. Readers have less information about the world, creating barriers to understanding and potential solutions sharing.

Accountability Lab is working to foster effective, accountable and transparent public institutions that will be better able to address the needs and rights of young people who are working to solve poverty, inequality and violence in the world. A lack of accountability leads to corruption and results in a decrease in citizen trust in political institutions, increased inequality and undermines the delivery of basic services. Corruption costs over \$1 trillion a year- money which could be spent on critical services for citizens.

GP and Accountability Lab want to work together to fill a global need for accurate, authentic data about developing communities. We believe there is a lack of credible data available that accurately quantifies the challenges and opportunities present in Africa, Asia and the Americas. Major institutions and governments have long owned the process of gathering and evaluating data on topics of poverty, public health and education. Too often, that data collection seeks to unethically influence or fails to consider local context, which strips dignity from local people and limits informed policy making.

This project, which could not happen without this designated funding, will train and employ local people to use scientific methods to gather and disseminate high-quality data on under-represented topics to stakeholders working to address inequality.

**3. Describe the emerging opportunities and/or challenges that give context to the project, highlighting what has changed as a result of shifts in the political landscape. (150 words or less) 122/150 [within form limit]**

Around the world government censorship has increased. According to a 2017 Freedom House report, press freedom in 2016 declined to its lowest point in 13 years. Today, there are unprecedented threats to journalists' safety and access to information as authoritarian states frame political or social unrest as a basis for censorship. In the U.S., a 2017 Gallup poll reported that only 32 percent say they trust the media to report the news accurately.

During this time of extraordinary international consequence and as industries and governments become increasingly isolationist, journalism has a responsibility to provide accurate, insightful global coverage. Accurate, ethical data collection performed by local people, and supported by accountability-driven organizations, can support evidence-based research, informed policymaking and exceptional investigative journalism.

**4. Provide an overview of the project's overarching vision and purpose. Describe how it lays a foundation for long-term, transformative change and how the project seeks to expand our notions of what is possible. (350 words or less). 303/350 [within form limit]**

After a successful 11-year history transforming the storyteller for international journalism, GP is developing a partnership with Accountability Lab to reinvent data collection in developing communities to enable better understanding of the world's most pressing problems by redefining the expert of statistical research and evidence.

The world misunderstands the power and value of local women. Too often, media outlets and NGOs depict them as victims rather than change agents. GP and Accountability Lab leverage the skills, context and insights of local women to inform and enable dramatic social change. In this collaboration, the two organizations are working to create a new training-to-employment program that will enable local women to learn the science of data collection to measure and analyze pressing problems and

opportunities in their communities. Whether it is hyper-local data on a budding public health crisis or political participation in local elections, data collected, analyzed and distributed by our trained researchers will both inform GP journalism and will live in a searchable, publically-available database to ensure wide reach and use of our unique data.

Initial program tests indicate that data collected by local people in local language often challenge widely-available institutional data. This collaboration will launch in Nepal and Liberia and will spread to more than 24 countries where the organizations have a presence in year one. By year five, GP and Accountability Lab will serve more than 70 countries with high-impact data collected and disseminated by local women.

GP and Accountability Lab are uniquely positioned to create new data collection standards from understudied global locations. Because our local researchers will possess the historical, cultural, political and linguistic context of their region, they will collect more nuanced, contextual data from target populations. The collected data will inform GP journalism, Accountability Lab programs and countless policymakers, political influencers and global change agents.

**5. Outline the project's goals and results you hope to achieve, including an overview of the timeline for results (within 1-4 years). (400 words or less) [ currently within form limit]**

This collaboration supports a shared goal to use ethical, accurate information to create a more just and informed world. The framework of the program will be defined in three segments: Training, Implementation and Stakeholder Access.

**Training**

Using its well-honed methods, GP will recruit local, female researchers in target locations. In trainings supported by Accountability Lab, researchers will learn the systematic process of interviewing, synthesizing and analyzing information to test hypotheses and evaluate outcomes on high-value topics using KoboToolBox, a suite of software tools for field data collection.

**Implementation**

All training graduates will be employed by GP to conduct ongoing research. Collected data will be translated (as needed), analyzed, disseminated and utilized to inform Accountability Lab programs and GP journalism.

**Stakeholder Access**

Raw and analyzed data will be available in a multi-lingual database and in infographics that will be accessible by a wide network of local and global stakeholders.

**Time Frame & Locations**

Each training will be organized into three phases: Recruitment, Class time, Field work. Total training time will be approximately 90 days, after which researchers (3-5 per location) will begin data collection assignments from GP and/or Accountability Lab.

Year 1 Pilot Training Locations:

Nepal, Liberia

Additional Year 1 Locations:

Argentina, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Haiti, Indian-administered Kashmir, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Successful implementation of the training program, followed by long-term employment of researchers and the creation of the database will create countless opportunities for tangible change at the community, national and global levels. The program will:

- Offer high-quality, living-wage employment to local women;
- Create a high-volume database that can be used to serve local and global communities such as:
  - Improving accountability of local and global institutions, corporations and governments by producing robust data needed to create informed programs and policies;
  - Fostering accountability across a spectrum of stakeholders by actively sharing raw and analyzed data;
  - Transforming global definitions of expertise by demonstrating that knowledge doesn't simply flow from North to South;
  - Emphasizing the global connectedness of social challenges by creating opportunities for informed dialogue that can lead to cross-sectorial change

**6. Describe some of the essential elements of your strategy that will enable you to accomplish the project's goals (200 words or less). [ currently within form limit]**

*Strategy 1: Prioritize diversity in recruitment, training and data collection practices*

Across the world, women are absent in key positions of influence as the gatekeepers of information. When trained to be professional journalists and now researchers, local women from diverse educational and socioeconomic backgrounds can leverage their unique access to sources to tell stories and collect nuanced data out of reach for foreigners parachuting in.

*Strategy 2: Prioritize local context in data collection and analysis*

By conducting surveys in local language and creating metrics that prioritize local context, GP ensures the dignity and authenticity of the data. The citizen-generated data will be valuable across sectors and will inform everything from policy making to movement building.

*Strategy 3: Leverage GP's multilingual and dual-distribution model for journalism as a high-impact medium to actively disseminate authentic data.*

In the global media context, access to information is almost always in English and as a result information can be about developing communities, but not for developing communities. GP will make the database available in local languages and English to ensure we're accountable to the communities we operate in and ensure the data is available to key stakeholders.

**7. Explain your organization or collaboration's leadership structure, including how decisions are made, and how the organization or collaboration is positioned to meet the moment. If a collaboration, include a list of collaborating organizations (if there are many organizations in the collaboration, provide a link to a webpage that shows a full list of groups, or just indicate the lead/core groups). (200 words or less)\***

In this first-of-its-kind global data project, GP and Accountability Lab will collaborate to ensure the production of accurate data from the least-covered parts of the world. The organizations have a history of informal collaboration in cross-over locations and seek to formalize the relationship for this important project.

Local recruitment and training will be led by Accountability Lab and ongoing employment of researchers will be managed by Global Press. Both organizations will form a joint management committee at the national level in each context to ensure collective decision-making and accountability; and share access to researchers to ensure active, ongoing data collection on relevant topics.

Researchers will be managed by the Research and Accuracy division of Global Press, with the hire of a research manager and database coordinator who will report to both organizations.

**8. Please tell us how you first heard about the Radical Hope Fund.**

GP was referred to the opportunity by long-time funder and partner, Katrin Wilde at the Channel Foundation.