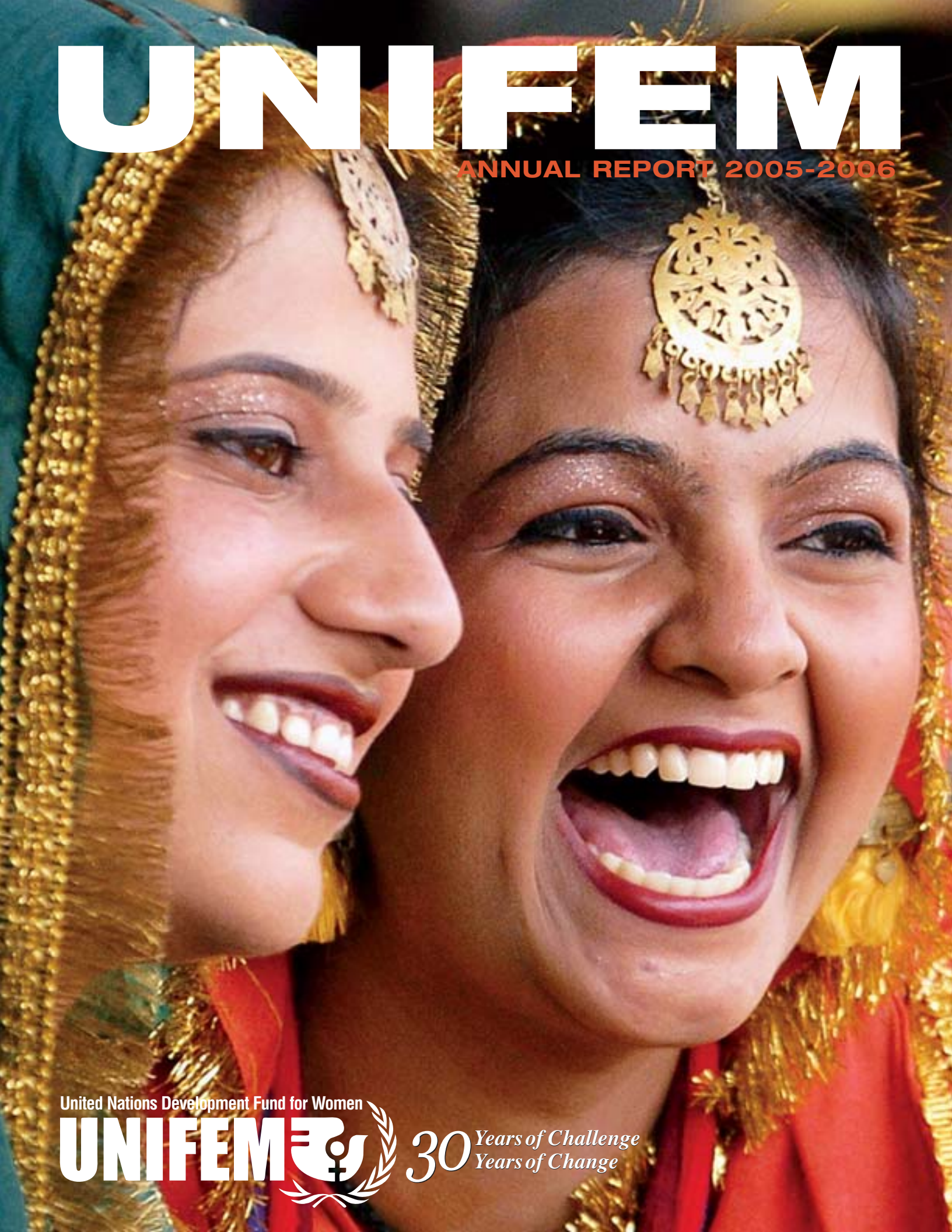


UNIFEM

ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006



United Nations Development Fund for Women



30 *Years of Challenge*
Years of Change

Mission & Mandate

UNIFEM is the women's fund at the United Nations. It provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies to foster women's empowerment and gender equality. Placing the advancement of women's human rights at the centre of all of its efforts, UNIFEM focuses its activities on four strategic areas:

- Reducing feminized poverty;
- Ending violence against women;
- Reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS among women and girls;
- Achieving gender equality in democratic governance in times of peace as well as war.

UNIFEM was created by a UN General Assembly resolution in 1976, following a call from women's organizations attending the 1975 UN First World Conference on Women in Mexico City.

UNIFEM's mandate is to:

- Support innovative and experimental activities benefiting women in line with national and regional priorities;
- Serve as a catalyst, with the goal of ensuring the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities, as often as possible at the pre-investment stage;
- Play an innovative and catalytic role in relation to the United Nations' overall system of development cooperation. (GA Resolution 39/125)

Learn more: www.unifem.org/about

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Years of Challenge
Years of Change

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Early in its history, UNIFEM recognized the immense potential of women's non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as partners for development activities, a trend later picked up by larger development organizations such as the World Bank. Between 1979 and 1985, the percentage of UNIFEM NGO partners leaped from 6 per cent to 50 per cent. One early UNIFEM partner was the Green Belt Movement in Kenya, which requested support in 1981 for a reforestation and employment project. Thousands of women planted millions of trees, and the movement jump-started a global call for 'development by the people, rather than for the people'. A source of inspiration worldwide, founder Wangari Maathai won the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize.

Milestone

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