Divya Sooryakumar is a feminist, strategist, and connector. As MADRE’s Director of Grantmaking, she works across movements to resource gender justice and amplify the leadership of those most impacted by systems of oppression across Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Asia. In addition to grantmaking, she explores and leads various collaborations to build a funding ecosystem in service of activists so that they can thrive.

Divya brings over a decade of experience working with women and girls through grassroots feminist organizing in India, including with the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA Bharat) and the Chandigarh-based Chhoti Si Asha.

- Divya led the VIVA Girls Initiative, MADRE's portfolio focused on supporting the leadership of young women and girls and their allies.
- She designed and oversaw an intersectional and intergenerational portfolio focused on making philanthropic resources accessible to young feminists, first-time grant recipients, and those most removed from sources of power.

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- Education advancement
- Gender justice
- Strategic communications
- Girls’ grantmaking
- Grassroots grantmaking

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