

# FONTA GILLIAM

Sou Sou

2016 Global Fellow



## BIG BOLD IDEA

Catalyze traditionally underbanked women-owned businesses by creating a global crowd banking platform for entrepreneurs to seed their own companies and fuel their own expansion.

## ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Sou Sou is an entrepreneur-driven investment fund that allows members to share money, barter, and invest to fuel their businesses through the Sou Sou mobile app. It services a \$620 billion access to capital gap for women and millennial entrepreneurs globally, who remain under-banked or underserved by existing financial institutions. Sou Sou's goal is to provide alternative financing solutions for startups and early-stage companies that create jobs and opportunity for disadvantaged communities.

## PERSONAL BIO

Fonta Gilliam is chief executive officer and founder of Sou Sou, a fintech social enterprise that is revolutionizing the way that women and millennial entrepreneurs save money and invest. Fonta is a strategic thinker and problem solver with over 10 years of domestic and overseas experience as a U.S. diplomat shaping international development policies and programs for the White House, the U.S. State Department, USAID, nonprofits, and the private sector.

### Issue area

Poverty Alleviation Economic Development

### Organization/Fellow Location

Washington, United States

### Impact Location

North America

United States

### Organization Structure

For-profit

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