

Explanatory Note

NGO-led Pooled Funds Mapping

General Definitions

The mapping has used the following general terms in its analysis:

Donors

Those giving financial resources to pooled funds: they can be institutional (government), cross-agency/organisation, private (corporate, individuals).

Due Diligence

Processes and checks to ensure compliance to legal, donor and ethical standards and regulations, and to assess and manage risks associated with funding and/or partnerships to ensure humanitarian assistance effectively reaches affected populations. These include questions and verification steps in applications, organisational review, implementation and reporting. *To note that membership processes may go beyond a standard due diligence exercises.*

Governance

Processes and structures that set the strategies and oversee the fund and its allocations.. . For the context of this paper, specific consideration was given on how decisions were made in regards to the application and selection processes, and releasing/activating funding windows..

Host organisation:

The organisation that provides the administrative, financial and/or legal infrastructure necessary to manage the pooled-fund. To note that a a continuum of different hosting relationships were observed including host which only provide - physical/virtual office space to hosts which provide direct oversight including potentially - overseeing the disbursements and governance of funds. To note that *the influence of the host (and their risk appetite in some cases) is difficult to ascertain at this stage of the mapping process; but a crucial element in whether or not the fund is locally-led.*

NGO-led

An initiative whereby NGOs (international, national or local) lead (i.e. take the key governance and management decisions). If the governance or management group includes multiple actors (i.e. steering committee), then NGOs should be in the majority. In the context of this paper, it also means other civil society groups - i.e. academic institutions - would not lead.

Pooled funds

Funding mechanisms which are constructed to aggregate funds from multiple donors for an agreed defined purpose to multiple recipients. Financing gets blended, instead of earmarked to a specific organisation, and there is some form of independent allocation process to determine funding recipients."

Pooled Fund Features

Based on the categorisation areas (see introduction), the following definitions are given to the different components identified in pooled funds. They are listed in the order that they appear in the mapping.

Overall classifications

Feminist funds

Funds that specifically fund women's rights work that are led by and for women.

Locally- or nationally-led funds

Funds which local or national actors lead (i.e. take the key governance and management decisions). If more the governance or management group (i.e. steering committee), includes multiple actors, local or national actors should be in the majority.

Refugee-led funds

Funding sources designed to support initiatives that are created, managed and directed by refugees or forcibly displaced individuals themselves. The fund should be governed and operated by refugees or those with lived experience of displacement to ensure decision-making is rooted in firsthand understanding.

Status

In development: in the process of being built or launched.

Active: currently receiving and allocating funding, including funds in a pilot phase.

Closed: no longer receiving or allocating funding.

Destination of Funding:

Sub-national

A pooled fund that primarily disburses funding to national and local actors operating in a specific sub-national locality.

National

A pooled fund that disburses funding to local and national actors in a single country, or international organisations for their specific operations in that country.

Regional

A pooled fund that disburses funding to local, national, regional and international actors in a specific region.

International

A pooled fund that disburses funding in more than one country across more than one region. These include families of pooled funds, such as CBPFs, that are centrally managed, but present at country level in the form of individual funds.

Accessibility

Open Applicants

A pooled fund open to for applications from any organisation meeting general criteria. Organisations may need to follow various stages to qualify for funding, however they do not become “members” of the Fund, with membership rights and duties.

Controlled membership

A pooled fund accessible only to its “member” organisations. Membership is distinct from pre-qualification in that members assume generally a role in the fund’s governance and are given certain rights and duties towards the Fund and its objectives. (*e.g. paying fees, attending annual general meetings, voting rights and obligations.*) Controlled membership implies that Fund regularly looks to increase its membership.

Limited membership

The pooled fund has a confirmed membership group and there are no immediate plans to open up to new members, limiting funding applications only to those members. .

Closed membership

There is a set closed group of members established by definition as per the Funds structure or purpose t. *For example, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Funds, only open to the RC/RC members.*

Type of actors funded:

Local NGOs/CSOs

operating in the aid recipient country in which they are headquartered, and working in a specific, geographically defined, subnational area of an aid recipient country. Without affiliation to an international NGO/CSO.

National NGOs

NGOs working nationally or in multiple subnational regions and not affiliated to an international NGO.

Refugee-led organisation

An organization or group in which persons with direct lived experience of forced displacement play a primary leadership role (entirely or more than half of roles) and whose stated objectives and activities are focused on responding to the needs of refugees and/or related communities.

Women-led organisation

An organization with a humanitarian mandate and/or mission that is governed or directed by women; or whose leadership is principally made up of women, demonstrated by 50 percent or more occupying senior leadership positions.

Other groups mapped include: **Networks of local and national actors; Academia; Local Government or National Government, International NGOs, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the UN.**

Financial capacity indicators

Known donors

Who has invested in the pooled-fund

Grant range

The size of grants given to members of the pooled-fund by way of the lowest and highest publicly available figures

Financial capacity

A public statement on the budget available to pooled-funds or how much they have raised. These were usually an annual or multi-year budget, if known - or when large donation figures had been made public.

Absorptive capacity

A specific indicator on whether or not the pooled-funds are handling over \$2m at any one point.

Author: Elise Belcher (Consultant)

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