

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Grant Proposal for Young Feminist Organising Research

*Below TOR is an initial step to determine overarching objectives and scope for the grant.*

<b>1. Overview</b>	<p>The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and an anonymous donor seek to commission a grant to contribute to the evidence base about and with young feminists to support young feminist organising and inform future grant-making and the field.</p> <p>We expect this potential grant to be approved by January 2022 and run until December 2023, with an application deadline of <b>8<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>.</p>
<b>2. Background</b>	<p>Since 2016, CIFF has been investing in young people's leadership, advocacy and movement building, and programmes that centre meaningful youth engagement. Partnerships were initially focused on supporting our work on adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), but have since expanded to cover other strategic priorities, including girls' education and climate change.</p> <p>In 2020, CIFF conducted an external evaluation of its meaningful youth engagement portfolio. The evaluation pointed to the importance of more intentional investments in young feminist organising, building on CIFF's partnerships with organisations. Following this evaluation, CIFF has developed a new framework for investments in young feminist organising, and has initiated new collaborations with young feminist activists and networks. Additional pilot grants are being planned as part of this investment framework.</p> <p>CIFF-funded programmes place significant emphasis on quality data and evidence. Before making an investment and during implementation, CIFF works with partners to measure and evaluate progress to achieve sustainable impact. Over the last 10 years we have commissioned a range of impact and process evaluations and invested in strengthening monitoring &amp; evaluation capacity of our partners. Through the work with young feminists, CIFF has begun to also reflect on, and improve, its own EME practices.</p> <p>This proposal recognises the range of work that has been conducted on the impact of young feminist organising, and seeks to build on this evidence base, building understanding of the landscape of young feminist organising and providing a useful resource for young feminists and funders on how best to support young feminist organising in the future.</p>
<b>3. Purpose &amp; Scope of Work</b>	<p>The purpose of this grant is to collect and synthesise evidence and insights on the impact (fostering improved outcomes and sustained change in government policies and society) of young feminist organising, with a preferred focus on Kenya and Mexico (<i>please note we may be open to other country contexts as a focus, if the grantee research partner identifies greater opportunities or advantages for research</i>).</p> <p>Specifically, the grant aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Systematically, map out and synthesise existing evidence on the impact of young feminist organising, and in collaboration with young feminists define what impact and strength means for young feminist organisers/organising;</li><li>• Systemically, map out existing landscapes of young feminist organising in Kenya and Mexico, including an inventory of tactics used.</li></ul>

Following the mapping stage, it is proposed that the research grantee undertaking this study will answer the following questions:

*(It is expected that this grant will involve meaningful participation and collaboration with young feminists, therefore the proposed questions and methodology may be subject to change based on their recommendations).*

### **Retrospective Analysis**

- In what ways is young feminist organising effective at contributing to changing policies or social norms (across different sectors)? What is the theory of change or conditions of success?
- How, if at all, are young feminist organisers specifically positioned to change social norms? *[For instance, young feminists may have a specific ability to influence young people, and contribute to preventing harmful social norms becoming embedded from a young age].*
- What works in improving the strength of young feminist organising? *(Strength referring to the ability to exert influence over the public agenda, motivate action, generate ideas that are taken up in the public space, and to persist despite repression. This may manifest for e.g. in the number and size of organisations, media coverage, and access to power).*
- What are some of the most impactful and sustainable methods for supporting young feminist organising in Kenya and Mexico?
- What are the potential financial implications for society of not supporting young feminist organising? *(If this cannot be answered now, what methods are there for understanding this that would provide useful insights for young feminists and funders?)*
- What can we learn about the mix of tactics deployed by young feminist organisers?
- What do young feminist organisers in Kenya and Mexico need to 'thrive'? *(For example, the analysis could explore the need to support young feminist organisers in fostering cross-organising collaboration, and providing digital and holistic security, protection from opposition attacks, safe spaces and healing).*
- What learnings, if any, could be extrapolated for geographies beyond Kenya and Mexico?

### **Prospective Analysis**

- What are the recommendations for donors, young feminists, and the wider field to support best practice funding for young feminist movements?
- How should the impact of young feminist organising best be measured? .

The use of the final output will be determined in collaboration with young feminists, with the intention to inform a wide range of field stakeholders, young feminists, and CIFF's future strategies and investments in the gender, youth and children's rights space.

## **4. Methodology**

Applicants are welcome to suggest appropriate methodologies to collect & analyse the data required to answer the above research questions.

This evidence review will require a participatory approach, consisting of a partnership between young feminists and academics. We will be partnering with a team of young feminist movement-building experts as consultants in this process, to act in an advisory role for the initial investment design, and to help

set up a young feminist advisory panel that can be engaged throughout the research phase. The study will therefore rely on the steer and leadership of young feminists where possible, and the methods are likely to be shaped by this interaction. The grantee partner will be expected to work closely with the young feminist panel, and may also make additional suggestions of ways to ensure young feminist participation throughout the study.

It is expected that the grantee will place emphasis on primary research and connecting with young feminists, to provide understanding of the ways in which they document their impact.

Due to the nature of young feminist organising and the challenges around quantitative data recording and collection, qualitative approaches will be a key part of this work. Some suggested qualitative approaches could include literature mapping, case study development, interviews, meeting observation, participatory techniques, social network analysis, media content analysis, and social media listening.

Nevertheless, the evidence review will require a mixed method approach, employing both quantitative and qualitative data. In particular, we are interested to see what measures can be used to map out young feminist organising to understand the existing landscape, and if possible, quantify young feminist influence over policy and norms change, and the data sources that can be used to understand this. For example, we have been inspired by the research done by L. Weldon<sup>1</sup> on measuring the link between feminist mobilisation and improved outcomes for women – we are interested in proposals that attempt to develop a similar type of methodology for young feminist organizing.

Regardless of the methods selected, we are keen to uphold the following principles in this evidence review:

- Specificity of metrics used and their relevance to the research questions
- Robust feminist and participatory methodologies
- Reliability of data collection methods
- Transparency of research methodology
- Clear and insightful presentation of results that can inform decision-making

## 5. Deliverables & Tentative Timeline

Key deliverables identified for this assignment include:

1. Evidence review methodology by **March 2022**
2. Initial findings report and presentation by **August 2022**
3. Draft final report and presentation - this should include recommendations to inform future strategies and investments for donors, as well as to inform strategic decisions by young feminist partners and the wider sector, by **October 2023**.
4. Dissemination workshop event, in partnership with young feminists, for the field and young feminist learning (to be determined in partnership with young feminists) by **October 2023**.
5. Final report & visualisations, by **January 2024**.

It is intended that the deliverables will be reviewed by CIFF, the anonymous donor, the consultant team, and the young feminist advisory board.

## 6. Qualifications & Experience

Competencies and experience necessary include:

1. Proven track record of research about and/or working with feminist organising.
2. Expertise in monitoring, evaluation, learning, and research.
3. Expertise in using mixed-methods.
4. Expertise in participatory methods.

<sup>1</sup> See: <https://www.sfu.ca/politics/feministmovement.html>

	<p>5. Knowledge of national &amp; international policies and regulations that impact on gender equality and related topics (including e.g. sexual and reproductive health and rights, education, gender based violence, economic empowerment).</p>
<p><b>7. Budget</b></p>	<p>We have an indicative budget available for this work of around \$500,000, however we will assess proposed budgets based on value for money criteria and according to the level of effort proposed by the applicant. There may be potential to add additional funds if required. Please note that a specific portion of the budget needs to be allocated towards setting up participatory processes with young feminists.</p>
<p><b>8. Application Process and requirements</b></p>	<p>Applications will only be accepted from organisations eligible to receive charitable grant funding. Applications are particularly encouraged from organisations based in, or with strong links to, Sub-Saharan and Eastern Africa and South America.</p> <p>Please submit a short proposal (maximum 10 pages) explaining the approach you would take to deliver on the above. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approach you would take to answer the research questions in this ToR, the suggested methodologies and team experience, and team structure.</li> <li>• Approach you would take to collaborating with the proposed consultant team and a young feminist advisory panel.</li> <li>• Please also submit a budget proposal showing the level of effort and rates required to carry out this work within the timeframe specified, including details of any proposed consultancies to support the work.</li> <li>• A short statement of why you/your organisation is best placed to do this work.</li> </ul> <p>All materials are to be sent to Eunice Muthengi, <a href="mailto:EMuthengi@ciff.org">EMuthengi@ciff.org</a>, Alice Chilcott, <a href="mailto:achilcott@ciff.org">achilcott@ciff.org</a>, and Linda Weisert, <a href="mailto:LWeisert@ciff.org">LWeisert@ciff.org</a> <b>by midnight 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021.</b></p>