



YOUTH RESEARCH UNIT

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Audacious Philanthropy?

**Mapping the Global
Philanthropic Eco-system**

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Executive Summary

Audacious Philanthropy?

In early 2022 the Lego Foundation announced its [Build a World of Play Challenge](#). In launching the Challenge, the Foundation announced that for ‘the LEGO® brand’s 90th anniversary we’re making a commitment to the world’s youngest children by giving out grants worth 900 million Danish Kroner to give them the best start in life’.

The [Foundation’s CEO, Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen](#) said that in launching the Challenge:

We’re looking for detailed ideas, plans and initiatives that transform the lives of young children, their families, and their communities. Ideas that we can put in place straight away to give children under six the help they so desperately need to thrive.

In an article in [The Guardian](#) commenting on the launch of the Challenge, Sherrie Rollins Westin, the president of Sesame Workshop, the non-profit educational organisation behind Sesame Street, is cited as saying that:

the foundation’s new prize was “audacious philanthropy”. She added: “In the humanitarian space, the attention of Lego’s investment will attract other investment – highlighting the void, and creating an opportunity to make a real difference.”

This report is prepared with the Lego Foundation’s *Build a World of Play Challenge*, and Sherrie Rollins Westin’s suggestion that the Challenge is ‘audacious philanthropy’, as its two key points of reference.

The report seeks to do a number of things:

- Define the character of philanthropic activity in its various forms;
- Address concerns about the grant giving practices in the philanthropic eco-system;
- Provide case studies of a number of significant Foundations in this eco-system;
- Suggest ways in which universities and researchers might engage with these foundations.

Recommendations and Observations

1. Universities hold a complex place in the philanthropic imagination.

Universities are, at least conceptually, nonprofit organisations. They are eligible for funding made available to charitable or nonprofit organisations and enjoy the associated tax benefits. Twenty-first century universities are also profit-driven.

Universities, in order to be competitive when applying for philanthropic funding, need to add value to the lives of people who will ultimately benefit from philanthropic funding – the poor, marginalised, and people in need. Models for this exist.

The University of Pennsylvania's *Center for High Impact Philanthropy* aims to help philanthropic foundations achieve the greatest impact with the charitable giving they receive. Their interests in research are secondary to assisting philanthropic givers to achieve outcomes for people in need.

Oxford University's *Sustainable Finance Group* uses philanthropic money to demonstrate to the global finance community that greater profits can be realised with green investing and the economy does not need to be sacrificed in responding to climate change.

Deakin University's *Centre for Humanitarian Leadership* runs a graduate certificate program that trains humanitarian workers for *Save the Children* with philanthropic funding.

Importantly, philanthropy is also about volunteering. Full cost recovery models may make many philanthropic funding options impossible. Providing staff to a philanthropic project on a *pro bono* basis will go some way towards making universities a more realistic option for philanthropic foundations.

2. Universities need to carefully consider their role in value-positions connected to philanthropy.

Many philanthropic foundations are guided by religious motivations. Universities may need to consider their roles in any denominational funding they receive. It may be that secular philanthropic options should be prioritised.

Universities should also be mindful of other incongruent messaging from philanthropic foundations and the potential for that to reflect negatively on any research outcomes that result from philanthropic funding. Such philanthropic contradictions are well documented in literature where large foundations are accused of social dominance, cultural hegemony and stifling competition. Still others give money to environmental causes whilst its parent company damages the environment through its business practices (see Reuters, 2016 and fn 1 on page 13 of this report).

3. Interpret philanthropic foundations' descriptions of who and what they fund broadly.

The *Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation* (VFFF) states on its website that they 'fund registered charities in NSW and QLD' (VFFF, n.d.). Yet, the VFFF can regularly be found working in partnerships with organisations that operate in other states as well.

Some foundations, like the *IKEA Foundation* (see chapter 5), report few collaborations with the university sector and prefer to work, predominantly, with other non-profit organisations. Yet, on closer inspection, we learn that the *IKEA Foundation* funds organisations like *Save the Children* that use that funding to collaborate with universities (Save the Children, n.d.).

Indeed, many philanthropic foundations present strict policies regarding what and who they fund, yet will gladly fund worthwhile projects outside of these policies.

Be mindful that philanthropic funding rules may be more malleable than they first appear.

Introduction: Children and Young People, Philanthropy, Charitable Giving, Nonprofit Organisations and Volunteering

There is little research that has explored the use of philanthropy for development, children and young people. Philanthropic foundations, nonetheless, have played a significant role in supporting children and young people in the developed and developing world.

A 2014 OECD study developed eleven case studies exploring the role of philanthropic foundations in supporting ‘youth empowerment’ (Pezzini in OECDnetFWD, 2014: 3). Set in the context of so-called ‘youth bulges’ experienced in many developing nations, Pezzini argues that the crises of the world in the 21st century presents a ‘historical opportunity’ to support ‘societal transformation and positive change’. But such transformation requires nurturing and resourcing.

Philanthropic foundations, Pezzini (in OECDnetFWD, 2014: 3) argues, should play a ‘significant role in constructing this enabling environment and effecting positive social change by helping to integrate youth into society, strengthening their employability and citizenry, and thus empowering them to lead the lives they choose’.

Defining the Philanthropic Space

Definitions and discussion about philanthropy incorporate several overlapping concepts. The National Philanthropic Trust (2022a) uses ‘philanthropic’ and ‘charitable giving’ interchangeably. They define **philanthropy** as a practice that:

provides opportunities for education, relief, growth and success that may never have been available otherwise. Donating to a country-wide food bank, financially supporting organizations on the frontline of the global COVID-19 pandemic or volunteering at a local library’s after-school program are all examples of how philanthropic practice increases quality of life, strengthens communal bonds and elevates others (National Philanthropic Trust, 2022b).

‘Philanthropy’ is often an umbrella term incorporating nonprofit organisations that seek and provide funding and support for socially beneficial programs and research, charitable giving, and volunteering (Bryant et al., 2003; Sheehan, 1996).

Philanthropic funding remains ‘indispensable’ for research, particularly as seed funding for ideas that may not be otherwise fundable or in conjunction with other research funding (Sah, 2017).

Philanthropy involves practices involving **charitable giving**, operating **nonprofit organisations**, and **volunteering**. These practices reach their height in the highly organised and lucrative philanthropic foundations that fund billions of dollars in globally beneficial programs and projects annually (ARCO Lab, 2020).

Box 0.1 Defining Philanthropic Practices

Charitable giving incorporates donations both small and large, provided at grassroots through to corporate levels. Some registered charities are structured for philanthropic grant giving in the form of ‘ancillary funds or trusts’ to operate in complex taxation and corporations law contexts (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2021; Cortis et al., 2018).

‘Volunteering’ is defined by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2021) as ‘time willingly given for the common good and without financial gain ... [and] is also considered to be philanthropy and/or charitable giving’.

Nonprofit organisations seek to maintain their operations, often through a combination of ordinary business revenue and charitable giving.

The (Problematic) Practices of Grant Giving Foundations

The global philanthropic eco-system has also attracted a significant degree of critique about its grant giving practices and processes, and the ways in which ultra-wealthy businesses, families, and individuals are able to use their wealth to undemocratically shape responses to many profound crises.

According to Davis (2013: xi), philanthropy’s meaning has ‘evolved over time’, and its particular meaning and purpose is subject to the ‘perspective’ from which it is approached:

In the context of its usage in the United States, it has designated a literal and general “love of humanity,” indicated a rational and systematic approach to the elimination of social ills ... as a label for the process of distributing of money and goods by the wealthy, and ... voluntary action (gifts of money, time, commitment etc) for the public good.

Other philanthropic approaches seek to distinguish faith-based giving from other philanthropic practices. In the context of the US, this is important. Charitable giving and religion are central to US culture and the US philanthropic literature is glossed by a common-sense logic that religion (often Christianity) is a positive influence on society and culture, and philanthropy provides proof of this (see Davis 2013).

Arnove (1982: 1) argues, in an edited collection, *Philanthropy and Cultural Imperialism*, that organisations like *Carnegie*, *Rockefeller* and *Ford*, through their philanthropic practices, ‘have a corrosive influence on a democratic society’;

they represent relatively unregulated and unaccountable concentrations of power and wealth which buy talent, promote causes, and, in effect, establish an agenda of what merits society’s attention. They serve as “cooling-out” agencies, delaying and preventing more radical, structural change. They help maintain an economic and political order, international in scope, which benefits the ruling-class interests of philanthropists and philanthropoids ... [that] has worked against the interests of minorities, the working class, and Third World people (Arnove, 1982: 1).

Slaughter and Silva (1982: 55) argue in this collection, for example, that the *Russell Sage Foundation* began in 1907 with honourable intent, but soon saw as its mission as opposing socialism and any progressive attitude that did not embrace Protestant capitalism. So where the Foundation was designed to improve the living conditions of Americans by ‘any means ... including research, publication, education’, this endeavour was mitigated by a ‘reluctance’ to support a progressive approach to poverty or well-being (Slaughter & Silva, 1982: 57).

Observations on How Researchers and Universities Might Work in this Eco-system

How should universities seek to partner with philanthropic foundations?

Universities are often non-profit organisations in financial terms, but remain profit driven in practice. This is a tension that universities, and the researchers that work for them, must navigate when attempting to do impactful work in partnerships with philanthropic organisations.

Philanthropic foundations seek to transform the donor’s money, and time spent volunteering, into meaningful benefits and relief for the people that are in need of charitable giving.

Universities should seek approaches that add value to the goals of philanthropic foundations relating to helping people improve their lives.

As the recommendations suggest, there are important roles that universities can play if they are willing to address the missions and visions to which philanthropic foundations aspire.

Method

Each chapter was prepared with online document searching strategies, guided by the principles of narrative analysis¹, on the websites of the philanthropic foundations that were chosen as subjects for this report. The foundations were chosen based on criteria identified at the commencement of the project. The starting point for identifying foundations was the list of the world’s 100 largest philanthropic foundations hosted at [Arco Lab](#). The criteria for foundation selection are detailed in Box 0.2: Selection criteria for inclusion.

Box 0.2: Selection criteria for inclusion

1. Be international in scope.
2. Be significant in size and reach.
3. Have an interest, broadly defined, in supporting children and young people.
4. Have as part of its mission or grantmaking a desire to address health and climate change.
5. Possess the potential to fund universities.

In addition, ontological considerations, influenced by Donna Haraway (1994: 60), emerged regarding how university-based humanities and social science researchers can ‘take seriously’ the philanthropic call to enhance socially valuable practices without gaining for ourselves, and without

¹ Catherine Kohler Reissman’s (1993) work was instructive in developing the strategy, especially in relation to following narrative threads and not merely instances where certain words appear or their frequency.

replicating the ‘constitutively militarized practice[s]’ of corporate universities. As case studies were developed a key concern was ***Why would this foundation fund a university?***

Mirroring the beliefs of the *Lego Foundation*, Haraway (1994: 61) believes we can find a way forward by fostering new connections, alliances and *knotted*, collaborative approaches to facilitating charitable giving, volunteering and enhancing practices that foster socially valuable approaches to complex global problems.

As such, in the ***How*** and ***Contact Details*** sections of the case studies (see below), consideration was given to the possible approaches that might be possible with these philanthropic foundations. Whilst the particulars of potential projects will be formed by decisions that are made by applicants, the process for approaching a foundation must consider how universities will be viewed by the philanthropic funder.

Structure of the report

This report is structured in a case study format with chapter one-through-ten featuring accounts of major philanthropic foundations and their work focussing on children and young people. Each chapter is structured in four sections - *Who*, *What*, *How* and *Contact Information* (with directions to *Examples* for each foundation in an appendix).

The ***Who*** section of each chapter introduces the Foundation and briefly describes their purpose and mission.

The ***What*** section describes the work they support and the stated targets of their funding.

The ***How*** section details how funding can be sought from the Foundation, often involving formal and less formal grant-making processes.

The ***Contact Details*** section that provides relevant contact details aimed towards the goal of beginning conversations about seeking funding.

A detailed ***Appendix*** entry is provided for each case study chapter showcasing examples of projects that have been carried out with funding from each philanthropic foundation.

Chapter 1 is a case study of *Volkswagen Stiftung*, or, the *Volkswagen Foundation*. It is the largest private research funder in Germany and since its inception in 1962 has funded over 33000 projects to the value of €5.5 billion, with a particular emphasis on the furtherance of the humanities and social sciences in collaboration with science and technology fields.

Chapter 2 features the *Lego Foundation*. *Lego*, or *Leg Godt* meaning ‘play well’, is a family-owned company established in 1986 with the goal of improving the lives of children to make their communities stronger through play, creation and experimentation. The Lego Foundation dreams of a world where all children enjoy the freedom to play well.

The focus in Chapter 3 is the *Wallace Global Fund*. The Fund was founded in 1996 as an offshoot of an organisation established by former US Vice President, Henry A. Wallace. The Wallace Global Fund

views itself as a champion for all people and a fierce supporter of the ability of social movements to create change.

Chapter 4 is a case study of the *Wallace Foundation* which seeks to promote equity and advancement in learning and education for children and young people. Philanthropic foundations should, according to the Wallace Foundation, support an *untapped capacity* that will turn resourced projects into significant educational and social change.

Chapter 5 examines the world's largest philanthropic foundation, the *Stichting INGKA Foundation*, or *IKEA Foundation*. Their mission is to improve the lives of at-risk children and young people by supporting families in building sustainable lives, which includes fighting, mitigating, and adapting to the impact of climate change.

Chapter 6 features the *Oak Foundation*. Formed in 1983 from Alan Parker's duty-free business empire, it was initially designed to support single mothers in Denmark and vulnerable children in Zimbabwe. Since the 1980s it has evolved with a focus on rights-based organisations and gender equality, with vision and leadership as the platform for sustaining life and democratic principles.

In Chapter 7, the *Ford Foundation* is featured. The Foundation's focus is on social justice, especially in a post-COVID-19 world where people have been excluded from participating in the political, economic and social institutions that define their lives. All people should experience the full expression of their human rights and be permitted to play a role in decision-making that affects their lives.

The case study for Chapter 8 examines the *Wellcome Trust*. Established in 1936 from the wealth of GlaxoSmithKline predecessor Henry Wellcome, the Trust supports research into the world's three major health challenges – mental health, infectious disease, and climate change. Their focus is curiosity-driven work, and they aim to provide the best experts with the time and resources to solve the world's biggest problems.

Chapter 9 features the *Aliko Dangote Foundation* that was established in 1994 by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote. The Foundation works to improve the lives of people in sub-Saharan Africa through its mission to achieve social change with investments that improve health and well-being, promote education, and promote opportunities for economic empowerment and independence. To this end, the Foundation has found some powerful allies including Bill and Melinda Gates.

The final case study in Chapter 10 focuses on three aligned foundations that operate in Brazil - the *BrazilFoundation*, the *Luz Alliance Fund*, and the *Ayrton Senna Foundation*. Drawing on the notoriety of famous Brazilians Gisele Bündchen and Ayrton Senna, these groups work in partnerships to mobilise efforts to transform Brazil by alleviating poverty, promoting equality, social justice and opportunity for all.

Chapter 1. Volkswagen Stiftung

Who

The Volkswagen Foundation is the largest private research funder in Germany. Since its inception in 1962, it has funded over 33000 projects to the value of €5.5 billion. The Foundation is dedicated to the furtherance of the humanities and social sciences, and encourages their collaboration with science and technology fields. The Volkswagen Foundation specialises in funding for ‘path-breaking’ research and improving the ‘structural conditions’ in the academic institutions where much of their funded research occurs (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2022a).²

What

The *Volkswagen Foundation’s* realigned funding strategy for supporting scholarship and research is centred on three themes:

- ‘Exploration’;
- ‘Understanding Research – Evaluation and Science Practice’;
- ‘Societal Transformations’ (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2022b).

An additional ‘Cross-sectional Area’ was introduced to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic; ‘Science in Society’ (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2022c).

Most of these funding themes and subthemes are for German universities and researchers. Some welcome international collaboration, others require it. They are detailed below in the order that the Volkswagen Foundation suggested and indicate which funding welcomes international applicants.

Exploration

‘Exploration’ is envisioned as a ‘Future Laboratory’ for ‘unconventional research ideas’ (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2021a). For the Exploration theme, the funding offers include:

- [law between normativity and reality](#) where proposals are sought for ‘collaborative legal projects’ dealing with the ‘relationship’ between normativity and reality;
- [new research spaces for the humanities and cultural sciences](#) that funds projects that pursue novel and exploratory research in the humanities and cultural studies. For these offers, funding is for German researchers and universities and are ideal for research involving doctoral candidates. However, international collaborations are possible in these categories.

² When operating in philanthropic spaces, which by their nature should aim to improve the lives of people while subscribing to a set of values that are not profit- or gain-oriented, one must be aware of any ethical contradictions that may emerge. One such contradiction emerged in 2016 when Volkswagen were forced to admit to their role in an ‘emissions cheating scandal’ (Reuters, 2016). Volkswagen paid settlements of \$17.6 billion to American buyers for falsely claiming that their cars were more environmentally friendly than they were. The natural question of what that \$17.6 billion may have achieved in philanthropic contexts, or the more challenging questions regarding whether Volkswagen philanthropy is possible without corporate profiteering, are beyond the scope of this report. But they remain noteworthy considerations for the university sector.

Understanding Research – Evaluation and Science Practice

Also described as the ‘Knowledge about Knowledge’ theme, it is designed to support and promote scientific research and theory by providing ‘targeted impulses for the structural improvement of research and teaching’ (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2021b). These ‘impulses’ focus on three subject areas – ‘scientific cultures’, ‘scientific careers’, and ‘scientific discourses’.

There are several funding offers under this theme including [perspectives on science](#) that seeks to strengthen the ‘science system’ in Germany; [pioneering projects](#) that seeks to fund the development of ‘experimental spaces’ to advance innovation in science; and [Opus magnum](#) that seeks to fund teaching relief for German professors to write substantial manuscripts as opposed to the current academic style of writing shorter articles between teaching and administrative demands.

Social Transformations

‘Social transformations’ is designed to achieve nothing less than ‘Constructively accompanying the transformation of the world’ (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2021c). These funding offers are available to researchers outside of Germany, especially in collaboration with German researchers and universities, to identify topics that will be relevant for ‘the day after tomorrow’.

The [Global Challenges – Pandemic Prevention: the Role of Human-Environment Relations](#) offer is available to 3-5 researchers from at least 3 different countries (including 1 from Germany) for up to €1.5 million to enable international research collaboration to ‘generate new insights on understudied issues of global relevance’ where ‘science and nature are two intricately interlinked dynamic systems’. This intricacy was at stake in the ‘human-environmental interactions’ that gave way to COVID-19 and its consequences. Successful proposals will involve humanities and social science scholars collaborating with ‘natural, life or engineering scientists as well as stakeholders’.

A funding offer titled [Artificial intelligence – its impact on the society of tomorrow](#) seeks a consortium of researchers from social and technical sciences, from all career levels and, potentially, countries to address questions related to imagining possible futures of social and Artificial Intelligence interaction. This offer is for €1.5 million for 4 year projects.

Another funding offer seeks research teams for studies exploring [Perspectives on Wealth: The \(Re-\) Production of Wealth](#). International collaborations and trans- and inter-disciplinary teams are sought to research the situation of ‘Extremely unequal income and wealth levels [that] are a recurring cause of conflict and a persistent barrier to human development’.

How

The application process for the Social Transformations theme (that encourages international collaboration and is most relevant for the purposes of this report) is specific to each funding offer and is summarised below:

The *Global Challenges – Preventing Pandemics: the Role of Human-Environmental Interactions* application process includes an [information pack](#), a list of [FAQs](#) and [application templates](#) (zip file available in right bottom corner of screen; don’t scroll down too far). There are currently no open calls for this offer. This offer is for up to €1.5 million over 4 years.

The *Artificial Intelligence – Its impact on the society of tomorrow* application process includes an [information pack](#), [FAQs](#), an [infographic](#) of the selection and application process, a list of [what is not funded](#) under this offer, and the details of the [AI and the Future of Societies](#) conference to be held at Herrenhausen Palace in Hannover from October 12-14, 2022. The timeline for applications is not presently listed, but is under review. Up to €1.5 million for 4 years is available.

The *Perspectives on Wealth: The (Re-)Production of Wealth* application process includes an [information pack](#) for projects involving international collaboration, [FAQs](#), and [exclusion criteria](#). The deadline for applications in 2022 was July 5 but is likely to be renewed for 2023. This offer also had a [summer school](#) hosting option. €1.5 million was available for international cooperative projects and €80,000 for summer school proposals.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Volkswagen Foundation are included in Appendix 1.

Contact details

The Social Transformations theme have a general call for ‘Pioneering project[s] in the profile area of social transformations’, and they invite groups to make contact to discuss before applying (Volkswagen Stiftung, 2021c). To pursue this general call in the humanities and social sciences applicants are advised to contact Dr Cora Schaffert-Ziegenbalg at schaffert-ziegenbalg@volkswagenstiftung.de

For the funding offers, applicants can contact:

Global Challenges: Daniela Grages (administrator) at grages@volkswagenstiftung.de or Dr Silke Bertram and Dr Matthias Nöllenberg at pandemics@volkswagenstiftung.de

Artificial Intelligence: Friederike Hepp (administrator) at hepp@volkswagenstiftung.de or Dr Sebastian Matthes (social sciences) at matthes@volkswagenstiftung.de

Perspectives on Wealth: Maria-Luisa Förster at foerster@volkswagenstiftung.de or Dr Sebastian Matthes (social sciences) at matthes@volkswagenstiftung.de

Chapter 2. The Lego Foundation's 'Learning Through Play'

Who

Lego is a family owned and run company and 2022 marks its 90th year in operation (Lego, n.d.). The word 'Lego' is derived from two Danish words 'leg godt', meaning 'play well'. The Lego Foundation was established in 1986 with the mission to improve the lives of children and make their communities stronger by embracing play, creation and experimentation, and by working to ensure that children have freedom and safety to follow these pursuits.

The *Lego Foundation* has been a corporate partner of UNICEF since 2015 (UNICEF, 2021).

Lego (2022a) and the Lego Foundation, housed at the domain 'Learning Through Play', argue that 'Children know play is their superpower'. Lego (2022a) believes that play 'fuels curiosity', inspires a 'lifelong love of learning', provides a method to develop skills for negotiation, adaptation and to 'try again when things don't go to plan', and creates 'better mental health'. They add:

Children are amazing. They're curious, resilient and flexible. When children play, it brings out their natural skills – setting them up for a lifetime of learning. Play also brings families and communities together, which can make whole countries healthier and wealthier (Lego, 2022b).

The Lego Foundation seeks to support 'any organizations that can positively impact children and early education worldwide ... The goal is to support early learning and the development of holistic skills, ensuring children everywhere thrive and reach their full potential' (Palumbo, 2022).

As the COVID-19 pandemic landed and its impacts were felt throughout the world, '167 million children in 196 countries lost early childhood care and education services' (Palumbo, 2022). School closures impacted more than '1.6 billion learners' (UNESCO, UNICEF, and World Bank, 2021). Significantly:

Pre-primary students were the least likely to access remote learning, impacting 120 million children. Also, between 2018 and 2020, an average of between 290,000 and 340,000 children were born into a refugee life per year, which means nearly a million children were born refugees (Palumbo, 2022).

The Lego Foundation's CEO, Birgitte Albrechtsen, believes early childhood is facing an unprecedented crisis. She notes that early life is formative of not only social and cultural circumstances but is also 'when brain development is most adaptive and in a rapidly developing state' (Albrechtsen in Palumbo, 2022).

What

Lego (2022a) and the Lego Foundation's website 'Learning Through Play', details Lego's mission to foster play to develop creativity and well-being in young children and to harness the skills developed

through play for lifelong health and success. Play, in this view, is a ‘superpower’ that children are aware of, but that we are trained to forget as adults (Lego, 2022a).

Echoing the behavioural arguments of Stanford psychologist, Carol Dweck (2017), Lego claims that play involves curiosity, a love of learning especially when it is challenging, and allows for a safe testing ground to negotiate, adapt, and fail and then fail again.

In February 2022, the Lego Foundation announced a global competition to win a share of \$143 million USD to tackle the contemporary challenges associated with the early years of a child’s development (Lego, 2022c). With this funding the Lego Foundation hopes to address a ‘global early childhood emergency’ that has been ‘exacerbated’ by the COVID-19 pandemic. The grants were available to anyone who explored ‘evidenced-based innovative solutions’ to our biggest problems related to early childhood including: access to education; nutrition; ‘toxic stress’ in communities and homes; violence; pollution; and ‘whole family’ well-being (Lego, 2022c). Applications closed in May 2022 but similar funding programs are envisioned for future years.

How

Information for applications for Lego Foundation funding under this announcement remain available at <https://learningthroughplay.com/build-a-world-of-play/the-challenge>. Proposals were required to have the potential for demonstrable impact, must be clearly feasible, centred around communities, and be sustainable.

Additional funding opportunities can be found at [Lego’s STEAM education solutions](#) program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics education). This funding appears more in line with classroom needs rather than funding for research. This [infographic](#) provides more information on this program.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Lego Foundation are included in Appendix 2.

Contact details

The contact email for the ‘Build a World of Play’ program is buildaworldofplay@submittable.com

For enquiries about other Lego Foundation funding contact LEGOfoundation@lego.com

Chapter 3. The Wallace Global Fund

Who

The *Wallace Global Fund* was founded in 1996 as a result of the splitting of the Wallace Genetic Foundation which was established by former US Vice President and champion of the 'common man' Henry A. Wallace (Wallace Global Fund, 2018a).

The *Wallace Global Fund's* 'Theory of Change' emphasises that the fund is, more than anything else, a 'supporter of social movements'.

The way that corporations conduct their businesses has a huge impact on people and the planet ... In order for our investment choices to overlap with our grant making objectives, our investments are 100% mission aligned, 100% free from fossil fuels, and 15% invested in carbon solutions. Additionally, 5% of the Fund's portfolio goes in high impact investments focused on energy access and energy justice, community regeneration, and women's rights and empowerment (Wallace Global Fund, 2018b).

The *Wallace Global Fund* aims to promote an 'informed and engaged citizenry' willing to fight against injustice and protect the natural systems that sustain life on the planet. It funds activities at the international and national levels but will also support significant local projects that can be leveraged into larger national and international causes (Columbia University, 2022).

What

The Fund's mission is to 'support people-powered movements to advance democracy and rights and to fight for a healthy planet' (Wallace Global Fund, 2018c). Four trends guide the Wallace Global Fund's strategy:

1. The rise of the corporatist state;
2. Threats to democracy and people's rights;
3. Ecological collapse;
4. Power structures and the weakened position of NGOs.

The information required for applying for these grants is available [here](#).

The rise of the corporatist state trend refers to the concentration of power and wealth in unchecked forms in the hands of a small number of people and the expense of the 'common good'.

Corporatocracy, identified by the Fund as a 'global phenomenon', poses a threat to natural and political systems (Wallace Global Fund, 2018c).

The threats to democracy and rights trend focuses on the need for governments to put people before money. The concerns range from 'unfettered campaign contributions' to 'insidious surveillance' to suppressing dissent, the cornerstones of democracy are widely under attack in the preservation of the interests of a select few (Wallace Global Fund, 2018c).

The ecological collapse trend seeks to respond to the consequences of climate change. Governments should ‘reverse the disastrous practices at the root of these problems’ instead of focussing on ineffective technological strategies (Wallace Global Fund, 2018c).

The changing power structures and weakened NGOs trend seeks to support NGOs to have an impact in the face of governments being effectively crippled by powerful economic interests that prevent meaningful responses to important social problems. ‘Real change comes’, the Wallace Global Fund (2018c) argues, ‘from the power generated by authentic movements of people dedicated to fundamental transformation and represented in decisions that affect their lives’. The best NGOs work collaboratively to support these movements to help them achieve their goals.

How

The *Wallace Global Fund* provides grants for ‘activities and movements’ that operate at the global or national level, or significant local or regional programs or initiatives. Grants can be provided for core support, or for specific projects. It doesn’t fund capital purchases such as land or construction, profit-oriented enterprises, reducing debt, endowments, fundraising events, scholarships or tuition. Recipients of grants must be non-profit organisations (Wallace Global Fund, 2018d).

Applicants must initially provide a ‘letter of inquiry’ of no greater than two pages outlining and describing the ‘mission and history’ of the non-profit that is applying, the goals of the planned initiative, objectives, and any accompanying strategies for achieving those objectives. The letter must state the current operating budget of the organisation and the primary income source.³

The grant submission portal is available [here](#).

Step one is to introduce your organisation and project through the submission of the inquiry letter.

Following this, applicants will receive an email notification if the *Wallace Global Fund* wants to see a full proposal, at which point further details on how to apply will be provided including login details for the grantee portal.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Wallace Global Fund are included in Appendix 3.

Contact details

Allison Barlow is the Director of the Democracy and Media Program at the Wallace Global Fund, and an academic at Johns Hopkins University. Her contact details are abarlow@jhu.edu

These contact details were also available via a third party: Melissa Dann, mdann@wgf.org, Tina Kroll-Guerch, tkroll@wgf.org

³ Universities would likely need to collaborate with relevant non-profit organisations to be involved in a *Wallace Global Fund* grant or establish social missions in the context of delivering social services outside of usual profit orientations. Many of the grants detailed in this report would require a similar approach.

Chapter 4. The Wallace Foundation

Who

The Wallace Foundation seeks to ‘foster equity and improvements in learning and enrichment for young people, and in the arts for everyone’ (Wallace, 2022a). ‘The Wallace Approach’ to reach these goals emerges from a belief that philanthropic foundations:

have a unique but often untapped capacity to develop evidence and experiences that can help advance an entire field. The money we have is miniscule compared to the size of the sectors we hope to move forward. By developing ideas and information to advance education, the arts and learning and enrichment for young people, *we can stretch our philanthropic dollar*, giving our work far greater impact than the sum of our individual grants (our emphasis. Wallace, 2022b).

In this way, *Wallace Foundation* grants are designed to support grant recipients whilst also developing ‘credible knowledge’ that is valuable to other people. The Foundations sees its tasks as including:

- Identifying knowledge gaps in its areas of interest;
- Fund projects that will test and fill those gaps; and
- Seek people that will be willing to disseminate what has been learned to policymakers, influential scholars and thinkers, and others with a stake in the fields the grants cover.

What

The *Wallace Foundation* funds initiatives in seven key areas:

1. **School leadership**: This area emphasises that strong public education is essential for ensuring society-wide equal opportunity which should be what underpins a robust democracy. When led by high quality principals, schools have the best chance of delivering the highest quality education.
2. **Afterschool**: With this area, the Foundation argues that highly effective afterschool programs provide young people with essential opportunities to grow and learn in fun, non-classroom spaces. A lack of access to high quality afterschool programs, particularly in urban areas with high numbers of low-SES young people, is a key concern of this funding area.
3. **The Arts**: The Wallace Foundation’s co-founder, Lila Wallace, once said that ‘The arts belong to everyone’ (Wallace, 2022c). As such, a central focus for grants is to support arts organisations in their efforts to better understand their audiences, reach new audiences, and ensure as many people as possible have an opportunity to enjoy artistic expression.
4. **Summer learning**: This area focuses on summer educational programs that have the capacity to ‘sharpen academic skills’ whilst also engaging in the arts, sports, civic participation, special projects and specialised STEM experiences.

5. **Social and emotional learning:** Social and emotional skills, such as those learned through participating in teamwork, demonstrating persistence through challenges, setting goals and exhibiting self-control, are essential for success in schooling and transitioning to adulthood and careers (see example in Appendix 4, 'Foundations for young adult success').
6. **Expanded learning:** This area operates from the belief that only some of a child's developmental learning occurs in a classroom. Increasing access for all children to expanded learning programs is vital for fostering shared values and resisting inequality. This concern is made pressing in the face of demographic data in the US that shows that 11 million children 'live below 100 percent of the poverty level' (Wallace, 2022d. And see example in Appendix 4, 'Providing children with expanded learning opportunities').
7. **Arts education:** This area emerges from the belief that the arts and artistic expression 'confer' wide-ranging benefits to those that participate in them, 'providing captivation and pleasure', enabling cognitive growth and, according to research, improving 'capacity for empathy' (Wallace, 2022e). Childhood participation in arts is closely linked to adult participation which means children introduced to the arts become the artists and audiences of the future.

How

The *Wallace Foundation* does not accept unsolicited applications.

Virtually all of the grants we award are made through a competitive process. *In most cases*, we identify and evaluate prospective grantees through the issuance of requests for proposals or other careful screening processes. While we believe this approach strengthens the effectiveness of our investments, it also means that unsolicited proposals are *rarely* funded (our emphasis. Wallace, 2022f).

So where unsolicited applications are not part of their formal granting process, the *Wallace Foundation* does seem to leave the door ajar for the possibility of alternative ways of seeking their grants.

Grantees typically belong to one of three categories:

1. Organisations with the capacity to 'develop and test' solutions to significant, public problems;
2. Researchers with the capacity to significantly contribute to knowledge and evaluate successful and unsuccessful approaches; and
3. Organisations that are able to get the issues and solutions to policymakers and leaders who can forge change based on the evidence they are shown (Wallace, 2022g).

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Wallace Foundation are included in Appendix 4.

Contact details

The Wallace Foundation provides a 'Contact Us' at the bottom right corner of each page alongside their New York street address in the Lower Manhattan financial district. Clicking this button provides access to an online form available [here](#). Outside of these options the Directors and senior members of the Foundation restrict public access to their contact details due to many being prominent investment bankers. Their website reports a team of six research staff including Director of Research [Bronwyn Bevan](#).

It is possible that her email is bbevan@wallacefoundation.org , but this may not be accurate.

Chapter 5. The IKEA Foundation

Who

The *Stichting INGKA Foundation* – or *IKEA Foundation* – is the world's largest philanthropic fund (ARCO Lab, 2020). In late August 2016, the Foundation was thought to be worth just under \$US 59 billion.

The mission of the IKEA Foundation is 'To improve the lives of vulnerable children by enabling their families to create sustainable livelihoods, and fight and cope with climate change' (IKEA Foundation, 2022a).

What

The projects the Foundation funds are organised around six themes:

1. **Climate action:** In the face of rising temperatures that impact our climate in incredible ways, the IKEA Foundation is fighting for a world that can sustain all the people that live on it. 'The scientific evidence is clear', the IKEA Foundation believes, and only a small window exists in which to take decisive action to 'drastically cut carbon emissions'. Combining a strong belief in collaborative work with a desire to fund the best organisations that are working to mitigate climate change and its consequences, the IKEA Foundation seeks to fund situations where a 'relatively small amount of money can change large, complex systems that are currently responsible for a lot of greenhouse-gas emissions' (IKEA Foundation, 2022b).
2. **Renewable energy:** Whilst the number of people living without electricity decline between 2010 and 2018, around 620 million people still will not have electricity by 2030, 85% of which will be in sub-Saharan Africa. Access to energy, according to the UN, is at the core of almost every challenge and opportunity people face. Around 800 million people currently live without electricity. IKEA Foundation supports partners who can provide renewable energy solutions with a focus on people living in poverty (IKEA Foundation, 2022c).
3. **Agricultural livelihoods:** With a focus on East Africa and India, 'planet-positive agriculture' is the focus of the agricultural livelihoods theme (IKEA Foundation, 2021a). Despite growing the world's food being one of the most important professions, most farmers in East Africa and India are living in poverty. Market policy and large scale agri-farming has severely impacted global farming structure and methods and some capitalist policies need to be eased to ensure fair prices for crop production.
4. **Employment & entrepreneurship:** The IKEA Foundation champions entrepreneurs with a green focus who provide meaningful and sustainable work for those living in poverty. Economic systems can generate wealth and provide employment. This has come at great cost to the environment. Meanwhile, the economic growth and employment has not been widely shared as 'More and more young people are entering the labour market every year to compete for a shrinking pool of jobs'. The Foundation believes this can be addressed by balancing economic growth with 'green, inclusive and localised economies' that nourish both people and the planet (IKEA Foundation, 2021b).

5. **Special initiatives & emergency response:** The IKEA Foundation has positioned its philanthropy to respond quickly to emergencies to help displaced people build a life worth living. From conflicts to disasters of various kinds, the Foundation seeks to partner with experts to deliver ‘life-saving support’ immediately, ‘not several days later’. Several ‘unrestricted grants’ are available for those ‘unseen emergencies’ that the media and the world either don’t know, or don’t care, about (IKEA Foundation, 2021c).

6. **Refugee livelihoods:** In this theme, the IKEA Foundation commits to supporting refugees in seeking economic self-reliance and a sustainable livelihood. People seek refuge in other nations in huge numbers and this situation is likely to worsen as a result of climate change. Working in the context of a post-COVID-19 world, the Foundation partners with organisations in urban and rural contexts to empower refugees on their journey towards finding economically sustainable lives (IKEA Foundation, 2021d).

How

The IKEA Foundation seeks ‘joint commitments’ to support families in finding an economically sustainable life, and join the fight against climate change in the process. Their support is offered via grant making within the contexts of the six themes identified above (IKEA Foundation, n.d.a).

On occasion – such as in the context of COVID-19 recovery – the Foundation will make grants outside of these six themes. [This website](#) provides details of projects the IKEA Foundation has funded.

The IKEA Foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals. They seek out programs to support that are ‘managed by knowledgeable, innovative and well-regarded organisations that are experts in their fields’ (IKEA Foundation, n.d.b). An opportunity exists to position a university-based group as the experts in a specialised area and bring this to the attention of Liz McKeon, head of the Climate Action theme for the Foundation (contact details provided below).

The IKEA Foundation does collaborate with universities in certain contexts. They have collaborated with Oxford’s Sustainable Finance Group. Prof. Ben Caldicott’s contact details are provided below. Caldicott, it should be noted, is a leading figure in the use of finance systems for investments to fight climate change and a further £4.5 million was recently committed to the Sustainable Finance program. In turn, the Oxford Sustainable Finance Group seeks ‘to work with partners to ambitiously shape the future of sustainable finance’ (University of Oxford, 2022).

A further opportunity exists in relation to a major Australian recipient of IKEA Foundation funding – *Save the Children*. Their work involves going to ‘the toughest places to save children’ often in the midst of ‘earthquakes, cyclones, conflict and disease’. Save the Children’s mission is to protect children from harm (Save the Children, n.d.). They received \$12 million to provide training to established aid workers to provide them with professional skills to protect, support and educate the children they are supporting with their aid. This training is delivered in partnership with Deakin University’s Centre for Humanitarian Leadership to deliver the Graduate Certificate level course (Save the Children, 2018). This model is a clear example of the kinds of philanthropic collaboration that is possible with the university sector.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the IKEA Foundation are included in Appendix 5.

Contact details

The IKEA Foundation has a general contact email: info@ikeafoundation.org

There is also an online form for general enquiries: [Contact - IKEA Foundation](#)

The email contact for Liz McKeon, the head of the Climate Action theme, is elizabeth.mckeon@ikeafoundation.org.

Due to the central role Prof. Ben Caldicott of Oxford plays in the financial research on climate change, he may prove to be a highly beneficial contact: ben.caldecott@smithschool.ox.ac.uk

Chapter 6. The Oak Foundation

Who

The Oak Foundation was founded in 1983, emerging from Alan Parker's duty-free shopping businesses. Initial funding from the foundation supported single mothers in Denmark, and vulnerable children and families at the community level in Zimbabwe in the early 80s.

The Oak Foundation funds partnerships with organisations focussed on 'rights-based' approaches and gender equality. Their values hold 'civil society' as the 'pillar of democracy and justice' and seek to build and support innovation and 'visionary leadership' within that context (Oak Foundation, 2022a).

The Oak Foundation, through its mission:

commits its resources to address issues of global, social, and environmental concern, particularly those that have a major impact on the lives of the disadvantaged. Through our grant-making, we support others to make the world a safer, fairer, and more sustainable place to live. With offices in Europe, India, and North America, we make grants to organisations in approximately 40 countries worldwide (Oak Foundation, 2022a).

The Oak Foundation prioritises partnerships with organisations that meet the Foundation's own values of inclusivity, flexibility, and a willingness to engage in varying perspectives in the search of answers. '[T]he best grant-making', Oak Foundation (2022a) believes, 'reflects both careful due diligence and the willingness to take risks'.

What

The Foundation funds organisations via eleven programs which, to date, have delivered funding to 5440 different groups. The Oak Foundation has six primary programs:

1. Environment
2. Prevent child sexual abuse
3. Housing and homelessness
4. International human rights
5. Issues affecting women
6. Learning differences

In addition, the Foundation supports other causes falling outside these programs on a discretionary basis.

7. Special interest program

Four further programs focus on particular countries:

8. Brazil
9. Denmark
10. India
11. Zimbabwe

How

The Oak Foundation is an invitation-only application process. Most funding awarded goes to long-term partners of the Oak Foundation who are encouraged to apply based on fieldwork and research they have conducted.

However, Oak Foundation wants to ‘hear about ideas and work that fit within our programme strategies’ (Oak Foundation, 2022b). Organisations that believe a strong alignment with the Foundation may exist are encouraged to submit ‘an unsolicited letter of enquiry’. If budget and funding priorities align, that organisation may be encouraged to apply for a grant.

Box 6.1. Submitting a letter of enquiry to the Oak Foundation

How to submit a letter of enquiry

We greatly appreciate learning about organisations around the world that also aim to address issues of global, social and environmental concern, particularly those that have a major impact on the lives of the disadvantaged. Therefore, Oak Foundation accepts unsolicited requests for funding through a letter of enquiry. However, please note that the majority of our grant-making is not initiated by our letter of enquiry process.

Step 1: Review Oak Foundation’s criteria for funding

Read Oak Foundation’s grant-making page, review previous grants in our grant database and assess whether your organisation meets the general requirements of the Foundation.

Step 2: Read Programme requirements

Each programme has its own goals, geographic scope, funding restrictions and requirements for funding. Please read our programme pages for details. Note that programme budgets are often committed well in advance, so please ensure that you propose any time-sensitive projects sufficiently in advance.

Step 3: Submit a letter of enquiry

Organisations who are interested in seeking a grant should submit a letter of enquiry through our form below.

The form is available towards the bottom of their [submitting a letter of enquiry information page](#).

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Oak Foundation are included in Appendix 6.

Contact details

Oak Foundation has a general contact email: info@oakfnd.ch. They also have a media enquiries email: media@oakfnd.ch.

This is the email of Dr Anne S. Henshaw, Program Officer in the Environment stream: anne.henshaw@oakfnd.org.

President of Oak Foundation, Douglas Griffiths, might be contactable at douglas.griffiths@oakfnd.org.

Chapter 7. The Ford Foundation

Who

At the centre of the Ford Foundation's mission is a belief 'in the inherent dignity of all people'. But throughout the world, especially in the aftermath of COVID-19, people are being excluded from participation in the political, economic and social institutions that impact their lives (Ford Foundation, 2022a).

The Ford Foundation addresses these concerns with a focus on social justice:

a world in which all individuals, communities, and peoples work toward the protection and full expression of their human rights; are active participants in the decisions that affect them; share equitably in the knowledge, wealth, and resources of society; and are free to achieve their full potential (Ford Foundation, 2022a).

During their 80+ years of operation, the Ford Foundation has aimed to reduce poverty, fight injustice, strengthen democratic attitudes in the process, promote cooperation, and celebrate and support 'human achievement'. The approach to supporting this mission is to fund social movements built on strong leadership, meaningful institutions, and innovation which will sometimes arrive in the form of 'high-risk ideas' (Ford Foundation, 2022a).

What

The Ford Foundation's grantmaking is centred on the three elements of their theory of change:

1. **Investing in individuals** in the form of leadership development, scholarships and exchanges, and training programs.
2. **Building institutions** by helping to create or supporting existing 'pathbreaking' organisations working on important social issues.
3. **Supporting bold new ideas** through early stage investing in novel ideas that have the potential to create enormous social good (Ford Foundation, 2022a).

The Foundation has offered a series of grants and supports to assist in COVID-19 recovery and the inequality it has exacerbated and created:

The economic realities brought on by COVID-19 have threatened the survival of the organizations building the systems central to an equitable recovery. In response, we issued a \$1-billion social bond – the first ever by a foundation – to double our impact and help nonprofits confront the virus's sweeping effects (Ford Foundation, 2022b).

These funds are being used to support organisations that work to mitigate the social justice impacts and consequences of disaster to ensure they can do their important work without fearing for their survival.

The BUILD (Building Institutions and Networks) program is designed to support social justice organisations to allow them to become stronger and more resilient over time. Grants are awarded for operating costs, organisational strengthening activities, and to help organisers find 'strategic

clarity’, the necessary people and staff, knowledge and resources to flourish and make impactful contributions to social justice initiatives (Ford Foundation, 2022c).

The ‘Future of Work(ers)’ stream focuses on the rights of all workers, regardless of their working status, and this stream promotes the idea that workers should be able to shape the ‘policies and economic systems that affect their lives’ (Ford Foundation, 2022d).

Disability rights are a major theme of Ford Foundation funding. Social justice is not possible without addressing disability inclusion for the estimated one billion people globally who live with disability. Guided by the disability movement’s core principle – *Nothing about us without us* – the Foundation seeks to expand participation for people living with disability and confront ableism at both the institutional and interpersonal level. Among the disability inclusivity aspects built into the Foundation’s grantmaking are:

- launching a disability rights initiative which was developed with the involvement of 200 disability leaders
- ‘Incorporating a disability lens across all our grant making’ and directly supporting projects that have an impact in the disability community and confront ableism
- improving accessibility to the grant making process (Ford Foundation, 2022e).

Scher (2022), writing in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, argues that ‘After many years of excluding the disability community, philanthropy is starting to make changes. The Ford Foundation’s awakening on disability inclusion offers a model for the rest of the sector’.

How

Each year the Ford Foundation awards around 1500 grants to organisations and institutions that have transformative ideas and solutions. The Foundation also awards a small number of grants to individuals with fellowships to support future leaders.

As a general principle, they do not accept unsolicited applications outside of grant rounds and targeted funding. Included here is an example of targeted funding through the Ford Foundation’s BUILD program, as well as current opportunities on their grants page.

The BUILD program funded 350 programs between 2016 and 2021, providing \$USD1 billion across 30 countries. The next round of funding commenced in January 2022 with a further \$USD1 billion available. The program will fund ‘grassroots mobilizing’, policy development and analysis, as well as ‘strategic litigation’. Groups become eligible to receive funding through BUILD if they are elsewhere receiving funding from the Foundation (Ford Foundation, 2022f).

The Ford Foundation updates its [grants website](#) regularly.

In August 2022, two opportunities were advertised:

1. [JustFilms](#)
2. [Good Neighbor Committee.](#)

The *Justfilms* grant initiative supports ‘artist-driven film and new media storytelling’ and documentary making that shines a spotlight on inequality and the organisations and groups that work to address the causes (Ford Foundation, 2022g). Inquiries are accepted all year. They receive between 800 and 1000 annually. People from any region may apply.

There is a submission form at the bottom of [this page](#). The Ford Foundation will contact applicants for more information if the application proceeds to the next round.

The *Good Neighbor Committee* was created in 1996 to support organisations in Manhattan, near the Ford Foundation headquarters. This support has been expanded to enhance the spirit and vitality of all five boroughs of New York City. This program:

- Provides grants and support for innovative activities related to social justice and equality.
- Encourage the creation and establishment of other local organisations.
- Forge collaborations and communications between local organisations (Ford Foundation, 2022h).

This program was highly successful in Manhattan and it was later expanded into other regions where the Ford Foundation operates. These Good Neighbor Committee's are based in Asia, Africa and Latin America and address local needs in cities in these regions. More information can be found in the [Building Community Inside and Out with a Good Neighbor Committee](#) publication designed to assist applicants.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Ford Foundation are included in Appendix 7.

Contact details

The Ford Foundation provides their Manhattan address with phone numbers on their website, but are guarded about email availability.

The Foundation's website provides a [page](#) with details on the experts who make granting decisions.

In the Oceania region, Maryati Abdullah is the program officer based out of Indonesia. Her email may be maryati.abdullah@fordfoundation.org

The Director of Grants Management is Jim Gallagher. His email may be jim.gallagher@fordfoundation.org. Gallagher has a fairly low profile on social media given the significance of his position. He may be a reasonable person to contact. I would expect direct inquiries to him may be rare.

Chapter 8. The Wellcome Trust

Who

The Wellcome Trust – established in 1936 to administer the wealth donated by pharmaceutical magnate Henry Wellcome (a predecessor to the GlaxoSmithKline company) – supports ‘discovery’ research into the world’s three major health challenges: mental health, infectious disease and climate change and health (Wellcome, n.d.a). The research that the Trust funds is ‘curiosity-driven’ and funded via a [£38.2 billion investment portfolio](#) established to provide experts with the time and resources they may need to make important leaps forward in managing and solving global health issues. The Wellcome Trust also collaborates with policy makers and experts, runs advocacy campaigns, and forms partnerships designed to ensure that advances in health knowledge benefit all people.

What

The Wellcome Trust’s funding activities fall primarily into three categories: mental health, infectious disease, and climate and health.

Mental health

The Trust imagines a world where nobody is held back by their mental health problems. Serious mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety and psychosis make life difficult for millions of people and there is surprisingly little agreement on how and why these illnesses developed and how they can be best treated. The Wellcome Trust seeks to fund early intervention strategies that allow people with mental health challenges to thrive. They fund diverse types of research and seek collaborations with policy makers (Wellcome, n.d.b).

Infectious diseases

Diseases are responsible for around 25% of all global deaths as new illnesses emerge and as medical professionals and experts struggle to contain outbreaks. Vaccines and drugs and preventative regimes have been developed, but ‘global connectivity, climate change and the overuse of antibiotics’ frustrates progress and puts lives at risk (Wellcome, n.d.c).

Climate and health

The Trust through their climate and health category aims to support people to create a world where catastrophic climate damage is prevented in ways that allow human health and well-being to bloom. ‘We want to live in a healthier and more sustainable world’, the Wellcome Trust (n.d.d) explains, ‘one in which local communities and national governments are fully equipped to tackle the combined global climate and health emergencies with the urgency they require’.

How

The Wellcome Trust provides funding to researchers who are addressing aspects of the three key health challenges identified by the Trust’s experts – mental health, disease, and climate and health. They achieve this with a combination of open calls and direct approaches with priority given to innovative and creative responses to these health challenges. This includes their ‘discovery research’ approach (Wellcome, n.d.c.). ‘Ground-breaking discoveries’ are often the product of collaborations

with diverse ranges of people and organisations and the Trust seeks to support a ‘thriving, inclusive research culture’ (Wellcome, n.d.e).

The Wellcome Trust expects to expend £16 billion on research grants by 2032. The Trust’s ‘Discovery’ grant program provides funding at three different career level - [early](#), [mid](#), and [established teams](#).

The Wellcome Discovery Awards for established teams of researchers are available to any discipline that seeks ‘bold and creative’ research programs that stand to ‘deliver significant shifts’ in our understanding of mental health, disease and the links between climate and health (Wellcome, n.d.e).

Box 8.1. The Wellcome Discovery Awards

Discovery scheme at a glance

Where the host organisation of the lead applicant is based: UK, Republic of Ireland, [Low- or middle-income countries \(apart from India and mainland China\)](#)

Level of funding: You should ask for the resources you need for your research programme – see the 'What we offer' section on this page. You will need to justify this in your application.

Duration of funding: Usually 8 years, but may be less for some disciplines, and may only be longer if held on a part-time basis.

The Discovery Award emphasises bold and creative projects, with the lead Organisation based in the UK, Ireland or a low-middle income country, led by a researcher with an outstanding track record and with experience in managing large projects. There are rolling deadlines for this scheme (3-4 per year), with one that ended on 26 July 2022 and another beginning on 27 July 2022 with a due date of 6 December.

Additionally, each category (mental health, diseases, and climate and health) has funding rounds from time-to-time throughout the year.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Wellcome Trust are included in Appendix 8.

Contacts details

The Wellcome Trust has a [Contact Us](#) page with an option for email correspondence and a phone number. The 'email' correspondence requires an online form to be completed, and a representative from the Trust responds via email.

These are the contact details of Prof. Alan Dangour, Professor in Food and Nutrition for Global Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

alan.dangour@lshtm.ac.uk

He is Director of Climate and Health at the Wellcome Trust.

These are the contact details of Prof. Miranda Wolpert, Professor of Evidence Based Practice and Research at University College London.

miranda.wolpert@ucl.ac.uk

She is Director of Mental Health at the Wellcome Trust.

Chapter 9. Aliko Dangote Foundation

Who

The Aliko Dangote Foundation (ADF) was established in 1994 and works to improve the lives of people in sub-Saharan Africa. Its mission is to achieve social change with investments that improve health and well-being, promote education, and promote opportunities for economic empowerment and independence. Whilst the main focus of the Foundation is nutrition for children, it also promotes and supports 'wraparound interventions' to support sustainable health, education, economic capacity and disaster relief (Dangote Foundation, 2022a). They also support stand-alone projects that have potential for impact. Dangote Foundation works with governments as well as other non-profits and foundations, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, on projects to eliminate polio and improve immunisation rates in Nigeria.

What

Funding is provided by the Dangote Foundation across four schemes:

1. **Health:** Through the health scheme, the Foundation hopes to reach one million households by funding strategies for preventing acute malnutrition, provide access to higher quality water and sanitation, enhance behavioural change, support household livelihoods, whilst improving local and national health systems, as well as advocating towards these goals.
2. **Education:** The Foundation is committed to enhancing education in Africa. Their activities include providing ₦1 billion (just under \$A 3.5 million) to Nigerian universities, ₦500 million to the development of a business school at Bayero University, and ₦100 million to help establish the Otuke University in Bayelsa State, Nigeria.
3. **Empowerment:** In the empowerment scheme, the Dangote Foundation seeks to empower women via micro-grant programs to alleviate poverty and to secure opportunities for individuals, communities and families.
4. **Humanitarian relief:** To support international humanitarian efforts, the Foundation provides support to communities that are suffering as a result of natural disasters, ethno-religious violence, and starvation in Africa and in other parts of the world.

In June 2021, The Foundation distributed ₦4.2 billion in empowerment micro-grants to 20000 vulnerable women living in rural areas (Sanni, 2021). There is little information available regarding how recipients are selected but it seems likely that grants are distributed on a discretionary basis.

How

The process for applying for support from the Dangote Foundation is fairly opaque. It has been suggested that if one had a beneficial program relating to empowering women and young people in Africa, they could contact the Foundation directly. The website is not organised in the style of a Western philanthropic foundation with standardised grant information and processes. There is a grants location, but it redirects to the company's (not the Foundation's) main webpage. It seems that the Dangote company's philanthropic processes are embedded within the business itself and sometimes take the form of generous business dealings with vulnerable local operators and distributors.

The lack of a formal process for applying for funding alongside limited availability of contact details (see below) makes the Dangote Foundation a challenging group to approach. However, there may be value in persisting with this path. Dangote is one of the largest and most influential companies in Africa and the Dangote Foundation is praised for its generosity in helping vulnerable people feed themselves, receive health care and education, and build their lives. One avenue to collaboration may be through the universities in Nigeria that received large pools of funding from the Foundation. As such I have provided relevant contact details below.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the Dangote Foundation are included in Appendix 9.

Contact details

The Dangote Foundation has a [general contact page](#) where an online form can be completed for a return email.

They also have a general email: communications@dangote.com

Alika Dangote operates a prominent Twitter account: [Alika Dangote \(@AlikaDangote\) / Twitter](#)

The Dangote Business School (DBS) at Bayero University in Kano State, Nigeria provides 'high-level business management and entrepreneurship' research and training. This is the general email for the DBS: info.dbs@buk.edu.ng.

The DBS formed a collaboration with the University of Wolverhampton to establish the [Centre for African Entrepreneurship and Leadership](#) (CAEL) which is led by Dr Paschal Anosike. His email is P.Anosike@wlv.ac.uk and his mobile phone number is +44 797213 9952.

Chapter 10. BrazilFoundation, Luz Alliance Fund, & Ayrton Senna Foundation

Who

Brazilian philanthropic funds routinely seek prominent partnerships with celebrities and prominent people seeking to improve the lives of people in Brazil and South America. The *BrazilFoundation* works to coordinate those efforts and, prior to COVID-19, had regular calls for funding applications. The Foundation's mission is to mobilise 'resources for ideas and actions that transform Brazil' whilst working with local and global supporters, leaders, organisations and networks that seek to promote 'equality, social justice and economic opportunity for all Brazilians' (BrazilFoundation, 2022a).

BrazilFoundation often collaborates with other philanthropic organisations. Recent prominent partnerships include an environmental rehabilitation program to protect place and people funded and actioned with Gisele Bündchen's *Luz Alliance Fund*. This is a vital project to protect Brazil's forests which are of global significance, in alignment with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (BrazilFoundation, 2022b).

The Luz Alliance Fund was created in 2020 to deliver humanitarian resources for pandemic relief to families in Brazil. From 2021, the fund also 'supports environmental conservation and rehabilitation projects' (BrazilFoundation, 2022c). The BrazilFoundation works on behalf of the Luz Alliance Fund to perform due diligence on funding recipients and identify and recommend projects that match the Fund's goals.

BrazilFoundation has also forged a strong partnership with the *Ayrton Senna Foundation* to provide opportunities for children and young people to access education. The Ayrton Senna Foundation's mission is to 'develop human potential and completely prepare people for 21st century challenges' (BrazilFoundation, 2022d). The Ayrton Senna Foundation has drawn in £250 million principally from the sporting legacy of Ayrton Senna, which remains one of the most marketable and lucrative sporting identities in the world. This has allowed the Foundation's core business to be funding 'ambitious education projects' (Gallas, 2017). The Foundation has been recognised as an official partner of UNESCO and the OECD.

What

The BrazilFoundation provides funding across five program areas: Education & Culture, Socioeconomic Development, Environment, Health, and Human Rights & Civic Engagement.

- Under the **Education & Culture** theme, the Foundation has supported numerous projects including technological education programs, art programs for young people and adolescents, digital entrepreneurship for women, and training social and environmental educators.
- The **Socioeconomic Development** theme has awarded grants to entrepreneurial start-ups, 'second chance' style employment assistance organisations, and to support revenue-earning, well-being organisations (BrazilFoundation, 2020).
- The **Environment** theme emphasises planting programs, sustainable development in the Amazon and water conservation.
- Under the **Health** theme, the BrazilFoundation has funded specialised courses for medical professionals, and support for widespread breast health checks for women.

- Through their **Human Rights and Civic Engagement** theme, the BrazilFoundation has funded numerous projects including programs for immigrant women and refugees, sustainable development for women of colour, education to overcome 'Machismo, Sexism and Femicide', and education programs in a women's prison (BrazilFoundation, 2020).

During the height of the pandemic, the Luz Alliance Fund supported organisations that delivered thousands of food packages, hygiene kits, and meals to needy families. The following year the Fund launched an environmental preservation program to secure the future of Brazil's forests, which are among the most biodiverse on the planet, with the understanding that the forest's survival mirrors human survival.

The Ayrton Senna Foundation works with public sector organisations, teachers, researchers and non-profit organisations to build policy and practice based on the best evidence and research.

Based on major educational challenges identified by the teachers and coordinators with whom they work everyday, Instituto Ayrton Senna produces, systematizes and validates research to improve the quality of education, together with public education systems. All of the research that the Institute produces is shared through training, sharing, technical coordination and teaching initiatives (BrazilFoundation, 2022d).

Classrooms and education are essential starting points for programs funded by the Foundation with a focus on low-SES and disadvantaged families (Gallas, 2017).

How

The BrazilFoundation, prior to and during COVID-19, had formal grant funding rounds, and the expectation is that they will soon return, although they did not publish a funding call in 2021 nor 2022. Importantly, they serve as a partner to major philanthropic projects in Brazil.

The Luz Alliance Fund and the Ayrton Senna Foundation operate via discretionary funding but welcome written correspondence to seek their support through partnerships. Access to the Luz Alliance appears achievable via the BrazilFoundation only. The Ayrton Senna Foundation invites partnerships and collaborations and they provide an email where you can write to them directly (see below). Provided in the contact section is an email which is reported to provide access to the founder of the Foundation, Ayrton Senna's sister, Viviane.

Examples

Examples of projects funded by the BrazilFoundation, Luz Alliance Fund and the Ayrton Senna Foundation are included in Appendix 10.

Contact details

The BrazilFoundation can be contacted via their [online contact form](#), or via direct email to their Rio de Janeiro (info@brazilfoundation.org), New York (newyork@brazilfoundation.org), or Miami (miami@brazilfoundation.org) offices.

The Ayrton Senna Foundation invites partnerships and collaborations based on contact details available [here](#). For proposals for collaborations or partnerships, emails can be sent to ias@ias.org.br.

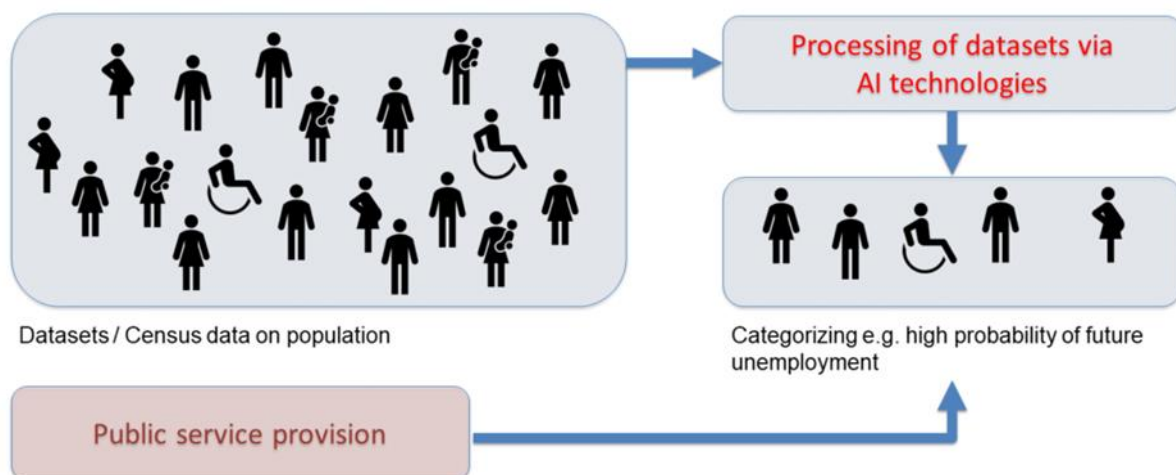
rmanzini@ias.org.br is claimed as an email where Viviane Senna, the late Ayrton Senna's sister, can be reached. Viviane Senna established the Ayrton Senna Foundation.

Appendix 1. Volkswagen Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

Improving the use of artificial intelligence technologies in delivering social services

Professors Petra Ahrweiler and Elisabeth André received €1.5 million from the Volkswagen Foundation funding under the AI offer for their project utilising AI technologies to improve the delivery of ‘social welfare systems’ (AcademiaNet, 2021). The ‘AI FORA’ project (artificial intelligence for assessment) uses AI algorithms that assess profiles and distribute public services such as unemployment benefits, pensions and public health insurance. This raises, in turn, important ‘ethical, philosophical, and social questions’ about ‘responsibility, accountability, transparency and the quality of social decisions’ (Ahrweiler et al., 2022).

Currently, many governments use AI to assess the eligibility of welfare or pension recipient to receive such payments, but questions linger as to the efficacy and morality of such approaches. The following diagram demonstrates how this occurs.



Source: Ahrweiler, 2022.

‘Delegating decisions’ like these to ‘machines’ (Ahrweiler, 2022), naturally, poses some significant problems and generates controversy, as was evident in discussions related to the NDIS in the lead up to the Australian election (Henriques-Gomes, 2022). This important research attempts to account for these challenges whilst still deploying AI in the service of providing impactful social services to those who need it most.

Volkswagen Foundation funding for the fight against COVID-19

Volkswagen Stiftung provided €7 million to a team of researchers from the Technical University of Darmstadt and the Goethe-University in Frankfurt to develop new genome-targeting drugs to aid in the fight against COVID-19 (Schwalbe, n.d.):

The genome of SARS-CoV-2 consists of around 30000 RNA bases ... [the] team of scientists ... are concentrating on the inhibition of the viral RNA ... The aim of the project is to develop

novel low molecular weight inhibitors targeting essential regulatory RNA elements in the genome of SARS-CoV-2.

The research team notes that only minor structural changes are needed to widely distribute drug and treatment advances across the world. Their hope is that the innovations developed will be made available to researchers across the world (Schwalbe, n.d.).

Perceptions of online, algorithmic identities

Controversies surrounding the use of personal data for marketing, consumer research, and political polling inspired a team of researchers who were funded by the Volkswagen Foundation to explore the 'public attitudes' towards 'algorithmic personalization' of online information (Kozyreva et al., 2021: 1).

The research team is a collaboration between the *Max Planck Institute for Human Development* in Berlin, the University of Bristol and the University of Western Australia. They received €1.5 million to study how a 'transparent information structure' can combat misinformation on the internet (Max Planck Institute, 2020). People 'rely', the researchers argue, on online AI every time they use the internet. This requires complex combinations of data collection and tracking in order to feed back information to internet users. The researchers have found that internet users 'object' to 'the collection and use of sensitive personal information and to the personalization of political campaigning' (Kozyreva et al., 2021: 1). Germans and the British, more than others, object to news sources being provided via algorithms. These findings are consistent regardless of political persuasions.

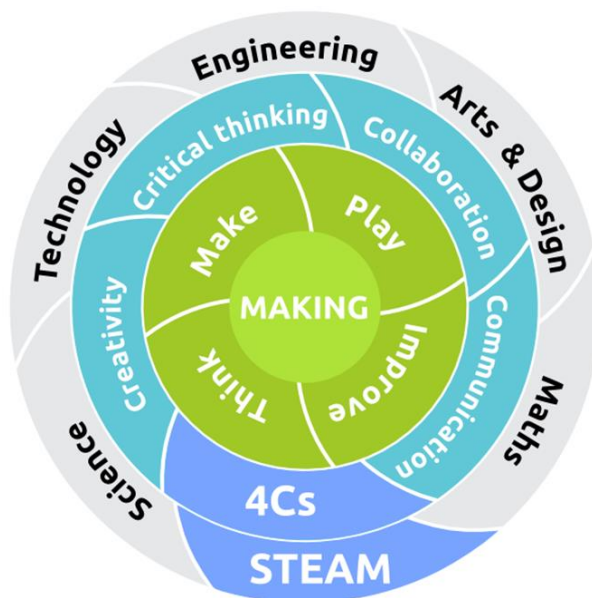
Appendix 2. The Lego Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

Playful, engineering-based learning

In collaboration with Tufts University, two St Louis-based non-profit organisations have received funding to enhance the educational experiences of underprivileged youth in St Louis (Ramsey, 2022a). The grant is being used to provide the non-profit organisations – Maryville University’s Center for Access and Achievement, and the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis’s Head Start program – with the financial resources to provide ‘pre-K and elementary students in high-poverty areas’ with ‘hands-on and play-based STEAM ... education’.

Karen Engelkenjohn (in Ramsey, 2022a), Program Director at Maryville University, argues that ‘play’ is an antidote to the ‘high-stakes testing’ and exam smithing that is often the norm in US schools. Programs that build in science- and engineering-based play prepares students for 21st century careers. The urban Head Start program collaborates with Tufts University to establish ‘purposeful play’ for children aged 3-5 that introduces them to ‘coding, engineering and robotics’.

Indeed, Tufts and Lego have established an enduring partnership that sees Tufts, in collaboration with local organisations in various locations across the US and the world and across varying cultural conditions, deliver STEAM education as play (Playful Engineering-based Learning, 2022). For example, Tufts have partnered with Karkhana Samuha in Nepal to roll out play-based STEAM curricula (Ramsey, 2022b);



Source: Ramsay, 2022b. STEAM play-based education in Nepal.

Other Lego Foundation projects have resulted in remarkable achievements in [neurodiversity](#), collecting first-hand accounts of how children [learn by playing](#), campaigning for [better policies](#) that will provide children and young people with more opportunities to learn through play, and documenting the significance of [social and emotional learning](#).

Appendix 3. The Wallace Global Fund Examples of Funded Projects

Supporting efforts to divest from fossil fuels on college campuses

The *Wallace Global Fund* provided \$USD120,000 to non-profit organisation *350.org* to strengthen their call to end American universities' investments in fossil fuels, and to broaden their efforts towards putting a 'Freeze on Fossil Fuels' in more sectors of the economy (Wallace Global Fund, 2018e).

350.org (2022) is a 'global grassroots movement' aimed at addressing and mitigating the climate crisis by stopping the further creation and burning of fossil fuels and to build towards 100% renewables. In June 2022 the *350.org* newsletter drew attention to the consequences for people of unchallenged climate change:

[June] was ... the month of Environment Day and World Refugees Day – timely reminders that the people and the planet should always come before profit. During the last month, floods, wildfires, and heat waves have hit many parts of the world, impacting those in the most vulnerable conditions harder. It is urgent that world leaders recognize that the climate crisis leads to injustices and struggles, and safeguarding an equitable future for all is a crucial part of the solution (The Editorial Team at *350.org*, 2022).

350.org has received several pools of funding from the *Wallace Global Fund* to address these challenges in their various areas of interest and influence including supporting their global campaigning for climate change action, expanding their fossil fuel divestment campaign, and supporting their divestment conferences (Wallace Global Fund, 2018e).

The 2° investing initiative

The 2° investing initiative (2DII) seeks to align the activities within financial markets with goals to mitigate climate change. 2DII is an 'independent, non-profit think tank that coordinates some of the world's largest research projects on sustainable finance' (2DII, n.d.a). 2DII have a number of areas of focus including:

- A [retail investing program](#) that incorporates 'data-driven research', analysis, 'product development', and communications strategies to integrate sustainability goals with retail investment markets (2DII, n.d.b).
- An online resource hub called [MyFairMoney](#) that provides a guide for consumers that informs their socially responsible and sustainable investment decisions.
- The [1 in 1000](#) program that provides resources and research to assess future risks and challenges.

The 2DII collaborates with Oxford University's 'Sustainable Finance Group' which operates a 'world-leading, multi-disciplinary centre for research and teaching in sustainable finance' (Oxford Sustainable Finance Group, 2022). This research centre seeks to align finance with sustainable development to tackle environmental and social challenges. This program is closely linked to

philanthropic funding having also collaborated with the Ikea Foundation to train over 1000 third sector and public executives in sustainable finance methods and processes (Caldecott, 2022a).

Where direct collaboration with the *Wallace Global Fund* may be challenging for a university, the Fund does provide grants to non-profit organisations that work in collaboration with specialist university-based centres and programs.

Safe and clean energy access with Action Aid US

The Wallace Global Fund provided \$USD50000 to *ActionAid* to support global campaigning to promote safe and clean energy access whilst promoting such energy access as the best way to ‘avoid climate change and ecological collapse, while meeting development needs (Wallace Global Fund, 2018e). More broadly, *ActionAid* is an international network seeking to build a ‘just, equitable, and sustainable world in solidarity with communities on the frontlines of poverty and injustice’ in a context where climate change and climate inaction is disproportionately felt by these communities (ActionAid, n.d.).

In their analysis of the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) activities and policy advice, *ActionAid* has argued that the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic should be a ‘green’ response. This would require a significant ‘shift’ through changes to IMF’s policy advice style, a ‘reduction in the value of fossil fuels and related infrastructure and assets’, and an overall attitude change in regulatory bodies like the IMF to provide advice that does not undermine effective action on climate change (Sward et al., 2021: 4-5).⁴

⁴ The IMF, according to *ActionAid* research, requires such an adjustment in the area of demand-side approaches to reducing greenhouse emissions which are considered ‘insufficient’ for addressing transition risks as we move towards cleaner energy (Sward et al., 2021: 4).

Appendix 4. The Wallace Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

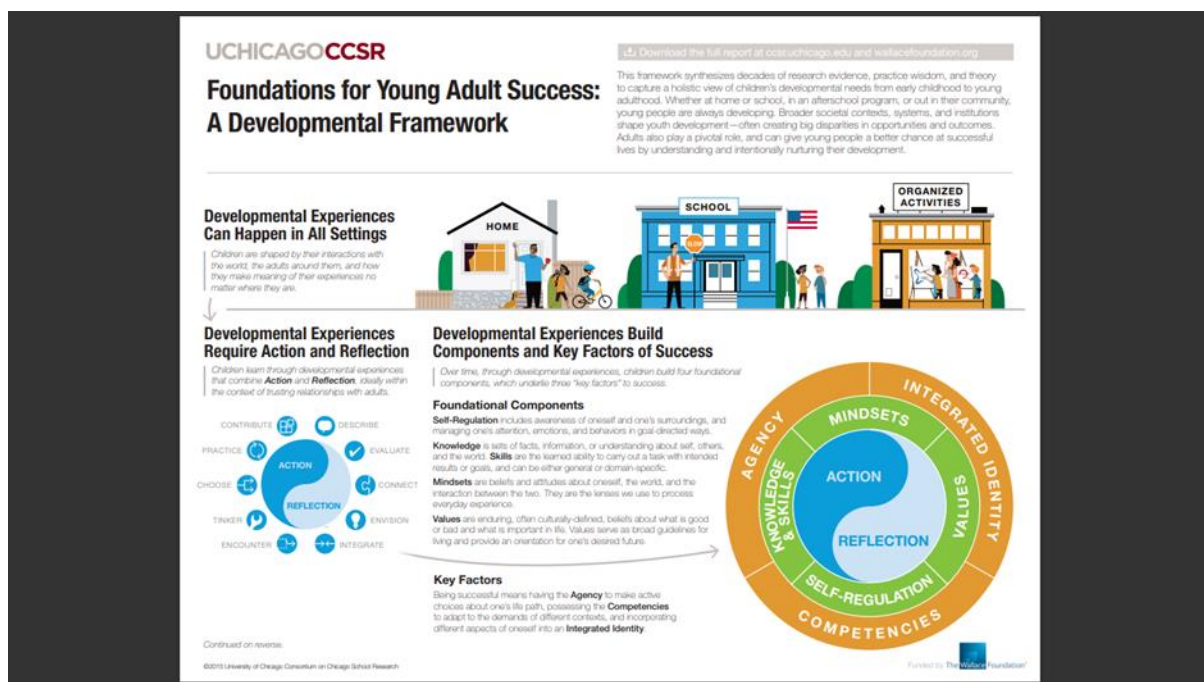
Foundations for young adult success

The *Wallace Foundation* funded the University of Chicago's Consortium on Chicago School Research to investigate the 'elements' that children need to improve the chances of 'adult success' (Nagaoka et al., 2015; Wallace, 2022h).

'Preparing all youth for meaningful, productive futures', writes Nagaoka et al. (2015: 1), 'requires coordinated efforts and intentional practices by adults across all settings youth inhabit on a daily basis'. The researchers are driven by four key factors:

1. Identifying what they consider, based on their data, to be the three key factors in a young person's life that leads to success as an adult. They are: Agency, An integrated identity, and Competencies. In addition to these three factors, the authors have identified the four foundational components of a young person's life that results in adult success: Self-regulation, Knowledge and skills, Mindsets, and Values.
2. Understanding how childhood development influences children and young people's chances for adult success.
3. Interpreting how 'backgrounds and context' impact young people's development.
4. Creating a 'provision' and opportunities for young people to 'experience, interact, and make meaning' from their experiences of youth as a 'central vehicle of learning and development' (Nagaoka et al., 2015: 1).

The following infographic from this project tells the story of the research, its outcomes, and potential impact.



Source: Nagaoki et al., 2015

Providing children with expanded learning opportunities

In April 2010 the *Wallace Foundation* began collaborating with several organisations devoted to expanding opportunities for children to participate in learning programs. Three of these organisations offer dedicated afterschool programs – *BELL* (Building Educated Leaders for Life); *Higher Achievement*; and *Horizons National*.

BELL is a Boston-based, non-profit organisation established by a group of Harvard law students in 1992. They offer two programs: *BELL* afterschool, and *BELL* summer. *BELL* afterschool offers free afterschool programs to students at several low-SES schools around Dorchester, MA. *BELL* summer offers summer school and programs on a family-income-based sliding scale and they offer a 'boys' program for vulnerable populations in the Black and Latino communities (The Shriver Report, 2015).

Higher Achievement is devoted to creating the conditions for every child to reach their full potential. Their mission holds that 'talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not'. Operating in the Baltimore, Richmond and Metro DC areas, *Higher Achievement* seeks partnerships with young scholars and provide 'academic and social-emotional tools and encouragement' to support their educational development (*Higher Achievement*, 2022).

The mission of *Horizons National* is to build a 'future in which every child thrives' (*Horizons National*, 2022). They seek to advance educational equity through collaborating in educational outcomes with students, family members, schools and communities to build joy in learning inside and outside of the classroom. They consider their efforts to be a heightened priority as students return to regular schooling after the pandemic.

The projects highlight the *Wallace Foundation's* strong desire for their funding to be spent in underprivileged communities and for programs that operate both inside and outside the school gates.

Appendix 5. The Ikea Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

Sustainable finance training for public and third sector executives

The IKEA Foundation collaborates with the Oxford University's Sustainable Finance Group to find ways for investors to do less harm to the environment in their financial practices. Global financial systems should – and can – support sustainable goals: 'tackling climate change, enhancing resilience and restoring nature' (Caldecott, 2022b):

A lot of people working on environmental issues have moments where they think: "My God, we're just so far away from delivering what needs to happen. Will we ever succeed?" ... I'm confident we're making progress and that the change underway is non-linear ... I would highlight the fact that we really need to focus on doing less harm. A windfarm doesn't undo the carbon pollution from a coalfired power station. There's this pervasive notion that if we just build enough renewables, we can tackle climate change. That's not how it works. We've got to stop polluting.

Caldecott (2022b) notes that time has run out in terms of reversing damage to biodiversity and habitat destruction. A key dilemma, one that the Oxford Sustainable Finance Group is working on, is how do we find meaningful ways of 'paying people to protect and restore nature' in impactful ways? 'I would focus some urgent attention on solving that problem', Caldecott (2022b) explains. This research plays a key role in bridging the gap between 'rhetoric and real-world impact'.

The role of health care professionals in mitigating climate change

According to Josh Karliner, a Director at the non-profit organisation *Health Care Without Harm*, healthcare 'systems' are responsible for around 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions. At COP26, governments committed to a pathway of 'healthcare decarbonisation and resilience'. Indeed, Karliner believes his job is a relatively straight forward one – convince professionals who are already predisposed to caring for people and doing no harm that they need to tackle climate change as part of providing care:

We know the change that needs to happen. We're all working really, really hard and pursuing innovative and exciting strategies and programmes across many sectors. But the crisis is more profound than the change we've been able to achieve so far. So that's hard. I think it stresses our kids, too. The youth today are so distraught by the state of the world we're leaving them (Karliner, 2022).

Health Care Without Harm provides a number of programs and themes with support from the IKEA Foundation including; Medical waste, toxic materials, safer use of chemicals, green energy, healthier food and culinary approaches, sustainable pharmaceuticals, sustainable procurement, climate and health, healthy transport, and healthy water (Health Care Without Harm, n.d.).

Unleashing the power of local government in the battle against climate change

Polly Billington is Chief Executive of UK100, a network of 'ambitious' local government leaders seeking to achieve 'Net Zero' to mitigate the emerging consequences of climate change. Climate change is, in their view, a global problem with local solutions (UK: 100, n.d.). Billington's policy work put her in the front-row for Lord Stern's well-known report on economic factors in fighting climate change. The Stern review concluded after assessing a wide range research and evidence evaluating the economic costs of climate change that: 'From all of these perspectives, the evidence gathered by the Review leads to a simple conclusion: the benefits of strong and early action far outweigh the economic costs of not acting' (Stern, 2006). Billington (2022) notes that the Stern report showed that 'environmental damage was part of the economic sum – and that the costs of not doing anything about it would be borne by the poorest'.

The locally-focussed actions of UK100 are organised around three key themes: 1). Climate change, 2). Clean air, and 3). Green finance. With the support of the IKEA Foundation, the local governments that have committed to the plan are campaigning for 'ambitious action toward Net Zero' (UK: 100, n.d.).

Appendix 6. The Oak Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

Improving renter rights in poor neighbourhoods in Boston

When a major apartment complex housing 207 units was sold, tenants were immediately concerned that their rents would rise. The same process had occurred in other parts of Boston and the resulting rent hikes drove families out of their homes. With the support of grassroots and bilingual community organisation *City Life/Vida Urbana*, tenants began organising and attending weekly meetings in order to save their homes and community. Many of the residents signed a petition, held vigils and generated public awareness of their predicament. In negotiations with the new owners, the renters were able to secure only a small rent increase alongside support for low income families from the city of Boston. The skills learned in standing up for their community greatly advanced the well-being of this diverse community.

With funding from the Oak Foundation, *City Life/Vida Urbana* have strengthened their role as community organisers and advocates for bilingual, working-class residents of colour in Boston.

City Life/Vida Urbana is committed to fighting for racial, social, and economic justice and gender equality, by building working class power. It promotes individual empowerment, develops community leaders, and builds collective power, to effect systemic change and transform society (Oak Foundation, 2022c).

The Oak Foundation secured the support of their partner organisation, Greater Boston Legal Services, to work alongside City Life/Vida Urbana in their efforts, providing legal advocacy and advice. Embedding legal expertise within community movements is known as ‘community lawyering’ and is now considered best practice in local and national grassroots movements (Oak Foundation, 2022c).

Therapeutic social programs for survivors of sexual abuse

With funding from the Oak Foundation, the Common Threads Project works with girls and woman who are victims of sexual and other forms of abuse. Around 852 million girls and women have been victims of gender violence and it is believed that around 60% have not told anyone of their experiences.

The Common Threads program helps woman and girls find ways to heal following experiences of sexual abuse, war and displacement. Via a community-based therapeutic approach that addresses gender violence and its psychological consequences, the Project provides the opportunity to participate in ‘therapeutic circles’ where women provide each other with support and encouragement as they use artistic forms to express complex emotions about violent experiences (Oak Foundation, 2022d).

“At Common Threads Project, we accompany women and girls on their healing journey from sexual violence, war and displacement ... Through our unique healing methodology, we have witnessed a miraculous capacity for resilience and growth. In countries such as Ecuador, Nepal, Bosnia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Even in the most challenging contexts, recovery is possible” - Rachel Cohen, founder and executive director of the Common Threads Project.

By creating textile and fabric pieces, girls and women have an opportunity to express in artistic form that which cannot be expressed in words. Research shows that non-verbal forms of expression can be vital when healing from trauma. Expression of this kind allows trauma survivors to express and experience complex emotions in new ways. The process of stitching and creating itself can provide a ‘rhythmic meditative counterbalance’ to otherwise unbearable and distressing memories (Oak Foundation, 2022d).

Appendix 7. The Ford Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

Intersections of digital rights and environmental and climate justice

The science that alerts the world to the climate crisis could not be clearer – society needs to change to become more sustainable and just. Chief among these efforts is finding a more sustainable mode of operation for the world’s biggest coal-powered machine: the internet. We also need better understandings of how the internet aligns with movements with a focus on the environment, and where the internet works against these movements.

The Ford Foundation has funded a series of organisations operating in this space who have produced a number of research reports.

- **The Engine Room** supports social organisations to use data in ‘strategic, effective and responsible ways’ (Brennan, 2022). They are the authors of the report *At the confluence of digital rights and climate & environmental justice* that explores climate justice issues that result from technical innovation and the environmental damage caused by internet infrastructure, climate change misinformation, increasing harassment of activists, and the expansion of migration. Among their goals is to draw attention to the seldom discussed ways that climate justice and action intersect with internet use.
- **Business for Social Responsibility** released a report in June 2022 examining the role of misinformation on climate change in undermining important climate change efforts on the internet. Social media, in particular, has the capacity to significantly undermine climate science and delay meaningful mitigation efforts to address climate change. A central role exists, the report argues, for ‘civil society groups’ to hold companies accountable for their actions, or lack of actions, to prevent climate misinformation (BSR, 2022: 3).
- The **Association for Progressive Communication** released, also in June 2022, their report detailing ‘Four issue briefs to inform funding’ at the ‘interstice of digital rights and environmental justice’ (Association for Progressive Communication, 2022: 4-5). The four briefs focus on;
 - 1). Mapping the gaps between digital rights and environmental justice activists.

The brief draws on key findings from background research conducted by APC, as well as on two issues of Global Information Society Watch02 published on the topic of environmental sustainability and technology from a social justice perspective. It identifies key gaps between the advocacy work and approaches of digital rights organisations and environmental justice actors, as well as potential low-hanging fruits for closer collaboration.

- 2). Mutual reinforcement of environmental and digital rights.

The brief explores environmental governance principles and processes from the perspective of their potential contributions to the governance of the internet and digital technologies. It stresses the importance of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, on access to information, public participation in decision making and access to justice, and of the

European Union's environmental policy principles and rights, which could be used to strengthen good internet governance.

3). Extractivism, mining and tech in the Global South.

The brief provides an overview of key concerns in the formal and informal mining of minerals used in the production of technology from a digital rights perspective. It stresses the importance of framing the extraction of these minerals, and the impact on environmental and community rights, within the broader context of the extractive business models employed by big tech companies.

4). Responding to the impact of misinformation on environmental groups with collaboration.

The brief provides an overview of environmental and climate disinformation, and the role of the tech industry in supporting the disruption of environmental advocacy. It points to the need for collaborations between digital rights organisations and environmental justice actors to understand and address environmental disinformation in a nuanced way.

Appendix 8. The Wellcome Trust Examples of Funded Projects

Anxiety and depression in young people: Finding the next generation of treatments and approaches

The Wellcome Trust has funded numerous mental health researchers and see themselves as a force behind the creation of a body of evidence that will prevent and mitigate mental health concerns for young people in the future. The Trust's goal was to 'help find the next generation of treatments and approaches to prevent, manage and stop relapse of anxiety and depression in young people worldwide' (Wolpert et al., n.d.). They seek the 'active ingredients' that contribute to the occurrence of mental health problems:

By 'active ingredients' we mean those aspects of an intervention that drive clinical effect, are conceptually well defined, and link to specific hypothesised mechanisms of action. In other words, those aspects most likely to make a difference in preventing, treating or managing mental health difficulties. These ingredients will be different for different people and could span biological, cognitive, relational and societal approaches (Wolpert et al., n.d.).

To date, the Wellcome Trust have funded more than 50 research teams that have established the evidence to determine the active ingredients. The Trust provided further funding to two other research teams that explored how others viewed this approach. The result is a large body of evidence that draws attention to those ingredients that most contribute to the development of mental health problems including access to green spaces in urban areas, relationships and opportunities to be social, and self compassion (Wolpert et al., n.d.).

What the evidence tells us

Anxiety and depression are holding millions of people back in life. However, we still know very little about underlying mechanisms of how current mental health treatments work ... or why they do not work for everyone ... And there has been no improvement in outcomes over the past 50 years.

The mental health science community is fragmented, with different disciplines taking different approaches and not enough interdisciplinary learning. Researchers lack a common language for describing problems, interventions and outcomes ...

There is even less learning from other areas of academia, including the humanities, law, economics, mathematics and philosophy, where potentially relevant research is taking place.

Appendix 9. Aliko Dangote Foundation Examples of Funded Projects

Dangote Business School (DBS), Kano State, Nigeria

In a nation where just over 50% of girls complete secondary school, and just under 67% of boys, investment in education is badly needed. The Dangote Foundation has been a leader in funding education, mainly in the tertiary sector and often as part of a trend where young Africans embrace entrepreneurial forms of employment (see Anosike, 2019).

After providing ₦500 million for the establishment of the DBS, the Dangote Foundation provided another ₦1.2 billion in 2018 to enhance the operations of the School as part of Dangote's commitment to support entrepreneurial activities among young people as a way of emerging from the catastrophes of war and impoverishment that have gripped Northern Nigeria:

The Business School ... is part of the efforts to build entrepreneurship in the sub-consciousness of Nigerians through education at the highest level ... the situation Nigeria has found itself necessitates revisiting school curriculums to reflect the new consciousness of entrepreneurship and manufacturing and efforts made to encourage study of business especially at the second level in the university (Dangote Group, 2018).

By supporting universities in vulnerable regions, the Dangote Foundation hopes to provoke an 'unprecedented economic boost' that will stimulate 'job creation, employment and poverty reduction' (Dangote Group, 2018).

The DBS runs postgraduate courses at the Masters and Postgraduate Diploma levels in entrepreneurship and business, they host the [*Bayero Journal of African Entrepreneurship Studies*](#), and is home to the Centre for African Entrepreneurship Research (CAER).

The Dangote Foundation donates food and resources to vulnerable families

Chief among the Dangote Foundation's goals is to improve the health, education, and economic development of vulnerable Africans and decrease the numbers who suffer and die of poverty-related conditions each year.

These goals are met via micro-financing programs that give money, resources and opportunities to women and young people, as well as feeding and providing healthcare to people who are going without.

At times this requires the Foundation to source, provide and deliver food items worth millions of naira to thousands of vulnerable people, many displaced by war and sectarian conflict. Foundation chairman, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, has been saddened by the conditions for displaced peoples, focussing much of their food delivery to these camps. In 2016, in Abuja alone, 13481 people were living in camps after being internally displaced by violence and poverty (Kraus, 2016).

These food and health programs sit alongside the microgrant programs that the Foundation provides to women and young people.

The micro-grants program is one component of the economic empowerment pillar of the Aliko Dangote Foundation ... It provides disadvantaged and vulnerable women with a one-off, unconditional N10,000.00 cash transfer to boost their household income generation. This we believe will help reduce their vulnerability and meet their livelihood needs (Dangote Foundation's Director of Government and Strategic Relations, Mansur Ahmed in Emi, 2021).

The Foundation has made available ~~N~~10 billion to be distributed in 774 government areas in Nigeria helping, so far, more than 400000 women.

Appendix 10. BrazilFoundation, Luz Alliance Fund and the Ayrton Senna Foundation

Luz Alliance Fund and BrazilFoundation provide relief to Brazilians during COVID-19 pandemic

During the COVID-19 global pandemic, lockdowns and subsequent economic hardships felt by millions across the world, Brazilian supermodel Gisele Bündchen, working in conjunction with the BrazilFoundation, has raised 4 million Brazilian Reais to provide resources to address various social challenges faced by Brazilian since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. Vulnerable people were provided with emergency relief as they struggled to survive economic hardship, health concerns, and social risks during the pandemic.

In total, the Luz Alliance supported vulnerable people across ten Brazilian states with ‘food parcels, hygiene packs, and food donations’ (United People Global, 2022).

The Luz Alliance has forged a new collaboration with the BrazilFoundation to protect Brazilian biomes to ensure forest and human futures, partnering with organisations in each of the Brazilian biome locations – Amazon, Caatinga, Cerrado, Atlantic Forest, Pampa and Pantanal, and Marine Coastal. The locations and organisations selected aim at ‘conservation of biodiversity and the protection of natural ecosystems, species and springs, promoting more sustainable livelihoods’ (BrazilFoundation, 2022e).

Ayrton Senna Foundation teaches coding to underprivileged Brazilian children

In 2017, the Ayrton Senna Foundation provided advanced, MIT-developed software in classrooms of underprivileged students to learn coding and network skills. In a context where most Brazilian public schools struggle to deliver basic education content such as mathematics and Portuguese to struggling students, the *Scratch* software can teach young people vital skills for 21st century employment.

In 2016, the Ayrton Senna Foundation funded a successful social and emotional skills program at Colegio Chico Anysio public school in Rio de Janeiro principally working with low-SES students and their families. Curriculum was ‘revamped’ around training programs that emphasised resilience, discipline and determination in addition to traditional subjects like mathematics and language. The Foundation also developed metrics to measure the achievement of these skills (Gallas, 2017).

Appendix 11. Philanthropic Foundations with Youth and Childhood as a focus

ASML Foundation. [ASML Foundation | Enabling, through education, an inclusive and equitable society for all](#)

Atlassian Foundation International. [Atlassian Foundation International](#)

Bali Children Foundation. [Education to Employment | Bali Children Foundation](#)

Berry Street. [Philanthropy | Berry Street](#)

BHP Foundation. [BHP Foundation | BHP](#)

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation. [Blue Dragon Children's Foundation](#)

Butterfly Foundation. [Support for Eating Disorders and Body Image Issues | Butterfly Foundation](#)

Children International. [Sponsor a Child in Need | Children International | Kids Charity Organization | Child Sponsorship in Africa, India, South America, & USA](#)

Classroom of Hope. [Classroom of Hope](#)

Draper, Richards, Kaplan Foundation. [Contact | DRK Foundation | Supporting passionate, high impact social enterprises](#)

Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. [Home - Intaward](#)

European Youth Foundation. [Funding and grants Council of Europe EYF \(coe.int\)](#)

Global Fund for Children. [Global Fund for Children](#)

Global Fund for Women. [Global Fund for Women | Support Gender Equality](#)

Global Partnership for Education. [About GPE | Who We Are | Global Partnership for Education](#)

Goodman Foundation. [Goodman Foundation | Goodman](#)

Heal Thy Self. [Schools Feeding Programs – HealThySelf Foundation](#)

Humpty Dumpty Foundation. [Humpty Dumpty Foundation](#)

The IMC Foundation. [The IMC Foundation | For a better society - IMC](#)

International Youth Foundation. [International Youth Foundation \(iyfglobal.org\)](#)

The Jed Foundation. [The Jed Foundation](#)

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. <https://www.macfound.org/programs/lever-change/>

Les Twentyman Foundation. [Les Twentyman Foundation \(lftfoundation.com.au\)](#)

Malala Fund. [Malala Fund](#)

Mary's Meals. [Homepage](#) | [Mary's Meals \(marysmeals.org\)](#)

Matana Foundation. [Matana Foundation for Young People](#)

The Minderoo Foundation. [The Minderoo Foundation](#)

The Mona Foundation. [Mona Foundation](#)

Morgan Stanley Foundation. [Giving Back](#) | [Morgan Stanley](#)

Olympic Refuge Foundation. [Olympic Refuge Foundation \(olympics.com\)](#)

Peace Child International. [Peace Child International Charity - Empowering young people globally](#)

Pinnacle Charitable Foundation. [Charitable Foundation - Pinnacle \(pinnacleinvestment.com\)](#)

Plan International. [Homepage](#) | [Plan International \(plan-international.org\)](#)

Prince's Trust International. [Home](#) | [Prince's Trust International \(princestrustinternational.org\)](#)

The Pyjama Foundation. [Charity Organisations](#) | [Children's Charities](#) | [Australia \(thepyjamafoundation.com\)](#)

RA Foundation, India. [Children](#) | [RA Foundation](#)

Roche. [Roche](#) | [Philanthropy](#)

Save the Children International. [Humanitarian Aid Organization for Children](#) | [Save the Children](#)

School for Life Foundation. [School for Life Foundation](#)

Sir David Martin Foundation. [Helping Youth in Crisis - Sir David Martin Foundation](#)

Sovereign House. [Help build a home for orphans in Ghana – Sovereign House GH](#)

Starlight Children's Foundation. [Home page](#) | [Starlight Children's Foundation](#) | [Australian Children's Charity](#)

TechnologyOne Foundation. [Foundation - TechnologyOne \(technologyonecorp.com\)](#)

Wonder Foundation. [Education for women and girls - WONDER Foundation](#)

World Vision. [Child Sponsorship](#) | [Sponsor a Child](#) | [World Vision Australia](#)

Youth Centenary Foundation. [Young Centenary Foundation](#) | [Centenary Institute](#)

Youth Off the Streets. [Youth Off The Streets](#) | [Homeless Youth Charity](#)

Zonta International. [The Foundation \(zonta.org\)](#)

Zurich Foundation. [Z Zurich Foundation](#)

Appendix 12. List of Prominent Convening Organisations

The American University in Cairo, The John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy, Civic Engagement and Responsible Business. [John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy, Civic Engagement and Responsible Business | The American University in Cairo \(aucegypt.edu\)](#)

Arizona State University, ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation. [Home | ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation](#)

Heidelberg University, Centre for Social Investment. [CSI – über uns \(uni-heidelberg.de\)](#)

Humboldt University, Maecenata Institute. [The institute – Maecenata Stiftung](#)

Indiana University, Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. [Current Research Projects: Research: Lilly Family School of Philanthropy: IUPUI](#)

Johns Hopkins University, Center for Civil Society Studies. [Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies \(jhu.edu\)](#)

Kent University, Centre for Philanthropy. [Centre for Philanthropy - Research at Kent](#)

Oxford University's Sustainable Finance Group. [Sustainable Finance | Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Queensland University of Technology's *Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies*.
<https://research.qut.edu.au/australian-centre-for-philanthropy-and-nonprofit-studies/>

University of Basel, Centre for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS), [Home | Center for Philanthropy Studies \(unibas.ch\)](#)

Universities of Birmingham and Southampton, Middlesex and Kent, Third Sector Research Centre. [The Third Sector Research Centre \(TSRC\) \(birmingham.ac.uk\)](#)

University of South California (USC), The Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy. [Research | Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy \(usc.edu\)](#)

University of St Andrews, Centre for the Study of Philanthropy & Public Good. [Centre for the Study of Philanthropy & Public Good - University of St Andrews \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](#)

University of Pennsylvania, The Center for High Impact Philanthropy.
<https://www.impact.upenn.edu>

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