



Taxonomy

Created in August 2020. Revised in April 2021.

Taxonomy: codes, select definitions, and properties⁸⁴

Key:

- GRANDPARENT CODES ARE IN BOLD, ALL CAPS
- Parent codes are in bold
- Child codes are in regular text, followed by definitions in the table

FUNDER TYPE

Funding Actor Types (69)

- INGO: 14
- Bilateral: 9
- Multilateral: 5
- Women's Fund: 12
- Private Foundation: 13
- Public Foundation: 6
- Private Sector: 3
- Children's funder: 3
- Girls Funder Collective: 3
- Social Venture: 1

Field Support Infrastructure (8):

- Advocacy Collaborative: 2
- Campaign: 2
- Funder Collaborative: 3
- Global Partnership: 1

⁸⁴ In some cases it is difficult to create a definition, as the concept might be in evolution. Where a concept is not well defined, we define using a list of properties that the term embraces as a step toward a more complete definition

FUNDER POLITICS

Framing

Human rights framework	Funder explicitly names human rights as a baseline for its approach to funding and programming
Feminist funding framework	Funder explicitly names feminist approach to its funding and programming, properties of which include participatory models of decision-making and centering girls and young feminists experiences
Intersectional funding framework	<p><i>“Grantmaking that takes into consideration the ways in which multiple systems of oppression are interwoven in people’s lives, communities, cultures, and institutions and how they impact people differently based on where each person sits and their lived experience”</i></p> <p>— <i>Journey Towards Intersectional Grant Making Report</i></p>
Justice	Funder embraces and explicitly communicates funding with justice as an outcome, which may include different types of justice: gender, social, climate, etc.
Power building	Funder explicitly names centering girls, their experiences, needs, priorities in its funding and articulated intent to build power, with properties like engaging girls to influence, make decisions, and control solutions and programming that is impacting their lives and situations (girls have control and decision-making power)
Empowerment	Funder focuses on funding awareness raising and educating, building negotiation and communication skills, and capacity building of girls, and may or may not engage girls in program design, delivery, monitoring, evaluating (girls provide input, participate, engage but do not control, influence, decide)
Post-feminist/gender neutral framing	Funder does not have a gender specific approach to children's programming because it assumes that gender equality has already been reached and all children need to be funded and worked with the same. Funder has a gender neutral approach to funding.
Protectionist	Funder portrays girls and children overall as dependent, vulnerable and at risk of abuse and articulates that because children lack the capacity to care for themselves and require the protection of adults to ensure their proper growth and development (girls as beneficiaries)

Development	Funder portrays girls as a solution in which to invest in order to develop economies, and solve problems related to poverty, inequality, etc.
Charity	Funder portrays girls as victims who can be saved individually, without reference to and detached from any systemic or political understanding of root causes of the problems. Most often charity funders come from the global north and west to the global south and east with 'saving' mentality towards recipients of charitable donations
Instrumental	Funder portrays girls as wholly disconnected from the social, political, economic or other systems and contexts (e.g. invest in a girl, she will do the rest)

What drives funder decision-making and politics?

Value for money approach	Approach focusing on the best return on investment, deriving from private sector influence on development and philanthropy and focusing on quantitative measurement logframes to determine best programs to put money behind
Innovation	Approach that is focussed on innovation and trying out new solutions for existing problems
Beliefs and convictions, world view	Approach that is motivated by a desire for a particular worldview or political system to become dominant; political position (e.g. universality vs. cultural relativity)
Evidence driven approach	Approach that wants to see evidence of return on investment: if we put our resources into this, how do we know it was successful? How does investing in girls and in a particular strategy for girls bring the most benefit and what is the evidence supporting it?
Trend / celebrity	Issues come to the forefront either because it is picked up by a celebrity, an influencer, or by mass/social media making it trendy for others to bring into focus and channel funding (divert resources). This drive is often not long lasting and can be costly to other issues that get deprioritized.
Political cause/ interests	When an elected official, presidential spouse, or political appointee picks up an issue of focus and uses it for political gain and/or recognition and sometimes also mobilizes public or private funding. This drive lasts as long as the person is in power and shifts when they are no longer in office or when the political environment changes.

New data/research	New data and research that gives evidence and recommendation to focus on a particular issue, strategy or population — commissioning of research could be from funders, or any other entity
Advocacy/pressures	Advocacy by activists, practitioners, funders — anyone in the field — that influences funder behavior to pick up a particular issue, strategy, or population
Crisis	Public health, political, economic, climate crisis impacting a population or geographical area

FUNDER PRACTICES

Funding administration

General operating/core/flexible support	Funding that is not project based and includes institutional support and flexibility by the grantee to decide on how to distribute the grant
Annual grants	One-year grants that may or may not be renewable and can be project or core funding
Multi-year grants	Grants for two or more years
Program or project-based grants	Funding earmarked for a specific project and tied to project-based outcomes
Technical assistance grants	Supports management, administration, or other strengthening of organization or practice — not targeted toward beneficiaries
Seed, start-up, planning grants	Grants to start an organization or a major new program
Exit grants	One time/last time grants as part of funder's closing of the program or changing funding priority
Discretionary grants	One time grants that are usually made outside of general grant cycles in a faster time frame for emergency response, travel, convening, safety and security

Funding recipient types

Unregistered girl-led organizing	Grants fund girls who are organizing on self-determined issues; the girl-led organizing IS NOT in association with an institution or registered organization
Registered girl-led organizing	Grants fund girls who are organizing on self-determined issues; the girl-led organizing IS being done in association with an institution or registered organization
Young feminist led	Groups led by self defined feminists under the age of 30
Formal adult-led organizations centering girls in their work	<p>*The field does not have shared definitions of what girl-led and girl-centered work.</p> <p>For the purposes of our research: grants that fund adult led organizations with an organizational mandate (mission, vision and goals) focused on girls; organization works predominantly with girls; organization's programming is shaped by adolescent girls' contexts, needs, and perspectives.</p>
Formal adult-led organizations approaching girls as beneficiaries	Grants that fund adult led organizations with an organizational mandate (mission, vision and goals) focused on girls, but programming is NOT shaped by adolescent girls' contexts, needs, and perspectives.
Community-based or grassroots organizations	Grants that fund nonprofit groups that work at a local level to improve lives, usually focused across sectors and particular segments of the community; can also be grants to local political organizing groups.
Unregistered groups	Grants to groups that are not formally registered organizations, but have some track record of meeting a need in the community or for a particular population segment where they work
Collectives	Grants fund a group of entities that share or are motivated by at least one common issue or interest vis a vis girls; decision-making is decentralized and 'majority rules'. The collectives come together for the purpose of implementation, not regranting. (And different from funds, which are governed by a board and staff with decision-making authority)
Funding collaboratives	Large grants being distributed to a collective of institutions for programming and grantmaking collaboratively
Intermediaries	Grants fund intermediary organizations, such as women's funds, INGOs, or public foundations, to re-distribute to NGOs, CSOs, or other organizations at regional, national, or local levels

Decision-making

Board/trustees level decision	Decision-making power about grants is held by board and trustee
Executive level decision	Decision-making power is held by funder executives about grants to those impacted by funding decisions
Program level decision	Decision-making power is held by funder/practitioner program staff about grants to those impacted by funding decisions
Consultations with advisors on the ground	Practice of seeking the advice of stakeholders in decision-making process; advice may or may not be taken by decision-makers
Consultations with girls/young women	Practice of seeking the advice from girls/young women in decision-making process; advice may or may not be taken by decision-makers
Participatory model with advisors on the ground	Decision-making power about grants is held by advisors located in the communities impacted by funding decisions
Participatory model with girls/young women	Decision-making power about grants is held by girls/young women who are impacted by funding decisions

Issues funded

- Health
- Sexuality
- Education
- Violence prevention/mitigation/response
- Child marriage prevention/mitigation
- Economic empowerment
- Voice, agency, participation
- Environment/climate

Strategies Funded

- Advocacy
- Capacity building/strengthening
- Scholarships
- Organizing
- Culture, norm change
- Asset building
- Leadership development
- Evidence generation

Broader Practice

Awareness and mitigation of safety risks

Funding that is considered with the safety and security of grant recipients in mind and includes safety and security support, protocols, and considerations in every stage of funding relationship from application to receiving money to reporting. Safety of the grantee is not compromised for legal or communication or convenience reasons of a funder.

Awareness and mitigation of power dynamics

Funder who acknowledges the inherent power dynamics in the relationship between them and applicant/grantee and works deliberately to acknowledge, mitigate, and minimize damage from power dynamics

Commitment to compensating girls, young women for their time and expertise

Funder who values time and effort of anyone they involve in their work from consultations to decision-making, ensuring there is fair and adequate compensation and value of the time and effort by all involved without hierarchy of paid staff and consultant vs volunteer and free labor by activists and community members

Anti-racist practices

Funder that explicitly communicates and practices anti-racist practices in all aspects of its work from staffing to grantmaking to decision-making

Trust in girls' expertise

Funder who inherently trusts the experiences of the girls and supports work that centers girls experiences and trusts girls needs

Responsive

Funding that is inherently 'keeping the hand on the pulse' of organizing and responds to the needs and priorities of the movements and organizers instead of creating strategies in isolation from the field and not adjusting them when context or situation changes

COVID-19 Shifts in funding landscape

- Increased emergency funding
- Decreased funding restrictions/
increased flexibility
- Increased funding restrictions/
decreased flexibility
- Exit from funding an issue,
population, priority
- Entry to funding an issue,
population, priority
- Adaptation of grantmaking cycles
- Faster decision-making
- Pauses to project-based activities

Impact on adolescent girls work

Delays or pauses in
implementation

Anything that describes impact on girls work as a result of delays or pauses in implementation, e.g. decreased access to information, resources, services, connectivity among girls

Addressing
immediate needs as
opposed to strategic
initiatives

Anything that describes shift in funding away from strategic, transformative work to meeting immediate needs as a result of funding shift related event

CURRENT LANDSCAPE/FUTURE ECOSYSTEM Current funding landscape

Current funding
landscape

Anything that is being mentioned about the current funding landscape, practices, politics

Ideal ecosystem

- Multiple funding sectors and actors
- Positive legislative frameworks/political will
- Participatory decision-making/uplifting girls voices

QUANTITATIVE DATA

Funding amounts for 2018

- Total budget of the institution
- Total grantmaking budget of the institution
- Grantmaking budget for girls' programming
- Grantmaking budget for children's programming
- Grantmaking budget for women's programming

Age Groups

8-17

12-17

18-35

Over 30

Age (in years) capture is reflective of various taxonomy in the field according to the CRC, adulthood starts at age 18 years

Operational

"How can this research be helpful/meaningful to your work?"

Responses to 'meaningful to your work' question posed during landscape interviews conducted in July 2020

Perceived challenges

Responses to 'perceived challenges' question posed during landscape interviews conducted in July 2020
