The role of global Britain in safeguarding the rights of the global LGBTI+ community

Leading the way: The role of global Britain in safeguarding the rights of the global LGBTI+ community

Author: Ross Othen-Reeves

This report is the result of a collaboration between members of the UK Alliance for Global Equality coordinated by the Baring Foundation. The project has been led by David Sampson at the Baring Foundation, with support from Alan Wardle and Anton Ofield-Kerr.

The Baring Foundation is grateful to Ross, Alan and Anton, as well as the membership of the UK Alliance for Global Equality for contributing their time and expertise. Thanks also go to the Global Philanthropy Project whose research and data are used throughout the report.

This report is endorsed by the following organisations from the UK Alliance for Global Equality:































This report is supported by:

The Baring Foundation

About the Baring Foundation

The Baring Foundation is an independent foundation which protects and advances human rights and promotes inclusion. Since 2015, our International Development programme has supported civil society organisations to address discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) individuals and communities in sub-Saharan Africa, with a specific focus on lesbian and transgender communities. Find out more: baringfoundation.org.uk/programme/international-development-programme

Contents

Executive summary	2
Introduction	4
Methodology	5
Funding landscape	6
The impact of Covid-19 on LGBTI+ communities	8
UK government's current commitments to the global LGBTI+ movement	10
The potential impact of increased funding	13
The potential benefits to increasing the UK's geographic focus on global LGBTI+ rights	16
Priority populations	17
Key principles	19
Key recommendations	21

Annex 1: Examples of funding models

Annex 2: The Global Resources Report map of funding by geographic region

Executive summary

Recent decades have seen a dramatic increase in the acceptance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI+) people the world over, reflected both in law reform and in social attitudes. These wins should be celebrated, but success is slow and uneven, and far too much progress remains unrealised.

Everyday, LGBTI+ people face extreme violence, exclusion, and human rights violations, simply for who they are. Over 70 jurisdictions still criminalise same-sex acts, and in recent years numerous countries have actively rolled-back hard-won rights and/or increased their persecution of LGBTI+ communities. This is despite all evidence strongly indicating that inclusive societies perform better economically.

A growing global Civil Society sector has organised itself in response to this discrimination, yet just 0.04% of all international aid is allocated to LGBTI+ causes. This chronic underfunding has been exacerbated by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has seen many governments, including the UK, postpone or cancel funds for LGBTI+ civil society at a time when their communities need them most.

The UK, which is considered a world leader in the promotion and protection of global LGBTI+ rights, currently spends just 0.08% of Official Development Assistance (ODA) on LGBTI+ issues worldwide.

This report sets out the need and rationale for the UK government to contribute an average of 0.3% of ODA per year over five years to fund new commitments to help safeguard and protect LGBTI+ people around the world.

THIS PAPER OUTLINES:

- The pressing need for increased UK funding in a post-Covid world.
- How this support will ensure the UK meets its international obligations on LGBTI+ rights.
- How UK funding can have the greatest reach and impact globally.
- Key principles to guide appropriate future resource allocation.
- Recommendations for the UK government to remain a global leader on LGBTI+ rights.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

The UK Government should:

01

Secure the long-term sustainability of the global LGBTI+ rights sector by committing an average of 0.3% of ODA per year over five years to safeguard and strengthen global LGBTI+ rights at an uncertain and urgent moment in history.

02

Use the FCDO merger as an opportunity to extend its global reach and influence on LGBTI+ rights, beyond DfID's current ODA priority and/or Commonwealth countries, enabling it to adopt a needs-based approach to supporting LGBTI+ people globally.

03

Create a new flexible funding mechanism based on the principles outlined in this paper, to ensure any future UK funding commitments on LGBTI+ rights have maximum impact within the communities they aim to serve.

04

Honour the numerous commitments it has made to LGBTI+ populations in the Global South and East, as stated in its 2019 manifesto and as Co-Chair of the Equal Rights Coalition, to ensure the UK's legacy as global leader in LGBTI+ rights.

05

Respond to the acute needs and disproportionate impact that Covid-19 has had on LGBTI+ communities globally through decisive leadership and resourcing.

06

Reinstate all global LGBTI+ initiatives postponed due to Covid-19 and continue to support inclusive development programmes interrupted by the global pandemic.

Introduction

This report sets out the need and rationale for the UK government to contribute an average of 0.3% of Official Development Assistance (ODA) per year over five years to fund new commitments aimed at safeguarding and protecting LGBTI+ people around the world.

Recent decades have seen a dramatic and positive shift in both societal attitudes and political acceptance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI+)¹ people and their rights across many parts of the world. This is true of the UK, which today is emerging as a world leader in the promotion and protection of LGBTI+ rights, as evidenced through its Co-Chairship of the Equal Rights Coalition (ERC), alongside Argentina.

Yet despite the efforts of the UK and other governments, progress on LGBTI+ rights around the world continues to be slow, uneven, and those at the frontline of change remain chronically underfunded. According to the Global Philanthropy Project (GPP),² between 2017-2018, donor government funding on LGBTI+ issues accounted for just 0.04% of all international development aid efforts.3 Of all LGBTI+ funding globally, almost 60% was focused on the Global North, and just 31% allocated to communities in the Global South and East. This is despite all evidence strongly indicating that inclusive societies perform better economically⁴ and that conversely, discrimination inhibits long-term economic growth.5

Without significant, sustained funding, specifically in the Global South and East⁶ LGBTI+ people will continue to experience human rights violations and marginalisation due to stigma and discrimination. This in turn leads to a lack of opportunities in all aspects of life, leaving LGBTI+ populations disproportionately affected by crises as a result, not least in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

66 Of all LGBTI+ funding globally, almost 60% was focused on the Global North, and just 31% allocated to communities in the Global South and East. 99

- 1 The '+' symbol is used with the LGBTI acronym to ensure it is inclusive of all sexual and gender identities and expressions, such as people who identify as non-binary, queer, two-spirit, asexual, etc.
- 2 globalphilanthropyproject.org.
- 3 globalresourcesreport.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GRR_2017-2018_Color.pdf.
- 4 <u>open-for-business.org/economic-performance</u>.
- 5 documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/527261468035379692/the-economic-cost-of-stigma-and-the-exclusion-of-lgbt-people-a-case-study-of-india.
- 6 Used here, the 'Global South' refers to countries in Middle East & North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and South Asia. 'East' refers to countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (including Russia), East Asia, South East Asia, and Oceania.

Methodology

This document collates existing research on global LGBTI+ rights, with additional data provided by the Global Philanthropy Project (GPP).

Civil Society also contributed to the content of the report, through the UK Alliance for Global Equality (UKAGE),⁷ a network of 16 UK-based Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) working on global LGBTI+ rights.

66 Stakeholders developed key principles which should be used to guide any future considerations the UK government may have for funding global LGBTI+ work. 99

Other key stakeholders who were consulted include the Equal Rights Coalition (ERC) Officer, the Coordinator for the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Global LGBTI+ Rights, 8 the Baring Foundation, 9 and the Global Equality Caucus. 10

Through facilitated workshops, stakeholders developed key principles which should be used to guide any future considerations the UK government may have for funding global LGBTI+ work.

The UKAGE consists of the following 16 members:

Action for Southern Africa; African Rainbow Family; All Out; Commonwealth HIV & AIDS Action Group; Equality Network; Frontline AIDS; House of Guramayle; Human Dignity Trust; Kaleidoscope Trust; Micro Rainbow International Foundation; Ozanne Foundation; ReportOUT; Stonewall Equality; STOPAIDS; UK Black Pride; UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Group.

Endorsements of this report from UKAGE members are noted on the inside and back covers.

- 7 www.ukallianceforglobalequality.org.uk.
- 8 www.appglgbt.org.
- 9 baringfoundation.org.uk.
- 10 equalitycaucus.org.

Funding landscape

Between 2017-2018, the UK government made three significant funding commitments to Global LGBTI+ rights and inclusive development:¹¹

TABLE 1

PROGRAMME	DEPT	VALUE	END DATE	PURPOSE	NOTES
UK AID Connect ¹²	DfID	£12 million	2022	Strong in Diversity, Bold on Inclusion (SiDBol). Consortium promoting LGBTI+ inclusion in 5 African cities.	Postponed due to Covid. Plans to reinstate are currently unknown.
Commonwealth 18-20 Fund ¹³	FCO	£5.6 million	2020	Addressing discriminatory laws against LGBTI+ (50%) and women & girls (50%) in the Commonwealth through the Equality & Justice Alliance (EJA).	Ended March. A CSSF grant ¹⁴ with the same focus will commence later this year.
Magna Carta Fund ¹⁵	FCO	£1.1 million	2020	Various projects, promoting human rights, rule of law and democracy. Includes LGBTI+ specific funding streams.	

Such efforts have ensured the UK currently ranks second in donor governments supporting LGBTI+ issues worldwide, ¹⁶ providing £14.6 million to the global movement in the two-year period 2017-2018. Yet LGBTI+ funding accounted for just 0.08% of the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) in the same period. Seen in these terms, the UK ranks joint-4th with Canada. The UK's current ranking is also significantly boosted by the commitments made in this period only.

A comparative table of spending by the five largest government donors from 2013-18 shows the difference in cumulative spending over this period (Table 2 overleaf).

- **11** Table 1 is for UK funding announcements made in the period 2017–18. Tables 2 and 3 include funding amounts reported in the GPP's Global Resources Report, 2017–2018 as **awarded** during that time (globalresourcesreport.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GRR_2017-2018_Color.pdf).
- 12 www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/uk-aid-connect.
- **13** www.gov.uk/government/publications/conflict-stability-and-security-fund-commonwealth-programme-summaries-2018-to-2019.
- 14 www.gov.uk/government/publications/commonwealth-equality-project-conflict-stability-and-security-fund-cssf-call-for-bids.
- $\textbf{15} \ \underline{www.gov.uk/government/publications/magna-carta-fund-2018-to-2020-call-for-bids}.$
- **16** Figures from GPP's Global Resources Report, 2017/2018 and are not inclusive of USA figures, which were unavailable (globalresourcesreport.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GRR_2017-2018_Color.pdf).

TABLE 2

DONOR GOVERNMENT	2013-14	2015–16	2017–18	TOTAL 2013-2018	LGBTI AS % OF TOTAL ODA 2017–2018	UK TOTAL IF AT SAME % OF ODA 2017–2018
Sweden	\$33.2 million	\$29.4 million	\$30.5 million	\$93 million	0.40%	£111,866K
Netherlands	\$34.9 million	\$37.8 million	\$13.7 million	\$86.4 million	0.18%	£50,339K
Norway	\$9.9 million	\$4.7 million	\$10.4 million	\$25 million	0.16%	£44,751K
UK	\$5.2 million	N/A	\$18.9 million	\$24.1 million	0.08%	N/A
Finland	\$3.1 million	\$2.5 million	\$7.7 million	\$13.2 million	0.36%	£100,692K

Note: Figures over a million are rounded to the nearest 100K. For full figures see report: <u>globalresourcesreport.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GRR_2017-2018_Color.pdf</u>.

These figures are inclusive of the UK Aid Connect LGBTI+ project, *Strong in Diversity, Bold on Inclusion* (SiDBol),¹⁷ yet following Covid-19, the UK postponed this project, potentially indefinitely. SiDBol accounts for

such a significant proportion of UK spend on global LGBTI+ rights, that if the UK elects not to reinstate it, the UK will rank 10th in donor governments, and 25th in terms of LGBTI+ funders overall.¹⁸

TABLE 3

RANKING	DONOR GOVERNMENT	LGBTI AS % OF TOTAL ODA 2017-2018	TOTAL
1st	Sweden	0.40%	£23.6 million
2nd	Netherlands	0.18%	£10.6 million
3rd	Norway	0.16%	£8.1 million
4th	UK (inc. SiDBol) Canada	0.08% 0.08%	£14.6 million £3.9 million
10th	UK (excl. SiDBol)	0.016%	£2.3 million

This would also leave a 15% deficit in the £79.5 million (US\$102.5m) combined total spend of government and multilateral donors for 2017–2018 and result in almost 17% less funding for LGBTI+ issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. This is particularly concerning given that donor and multilateral spend has decreased year on year since reporting began in 2013.

Even if SiDBol were to resume, the UK has no confirmed plans for supporting global LGBTI+ rights beyond this project's end in 2022, aside from hosting a global conference, the plans of which are still uncertain due to the impact of Covid-19.¹⁹

 $[\]textbf{17} \hspace{2mm} \underline{\text{southern-africa.hivos.org/program/strong-in-diversity-bold-on-inclusion}}.$

¹⁸ This includes public and private foundations and corporations.

¹⁹ The CSSF/FCO may seek further funding for the Commonwealth Equality Project for 2021–22 – 2022–23, but this has not been confirmed (www.gov.uk/government/publications/commonwealth-equality-project-conflict-stability-and-security-fund-cssf-call-for-bids).

The impact of Covid-19 on LGBTI+ communities

Around the world, LGBTI+ people are routinely marginalised due to stigma and discrimination. This in turn leads to a lack of opportunities in all aspects of life, including those prioritised through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),²⁰ such as safe housing, access to healthcare, food security, and decent

employment. LGBTI+ populations are often disproportionately affected by crises as a result, and Covid-19 is no exception. The global pandemic and subsequent response efforts have exacerbated LGBTI+ exclusion while also generating new vulnerabilities specific to LGBTI+ populations and their rights.

ACUTE ISSUES

State responses and emergency powers

The use of emergency powers have increased LGBTI+ people's risk of human rights violations, whether inadvertently through gender-based quarantines²¹ which negatively impact trans people, or through more deliberate actions against LGBTI+ communities, for example in Hungary,²² Uganda²³ or the Philippines.²⁴ The needs of LGBTI+ people have also been routinely left out of national COVID responses.

Scapegoating

LGBTI+ people have been publicly denounced and blamed for the spread of the virus in countries as varied as South Korea, ²⁵ Israel, ²⁶ Turkey, ²⁷ Guyana, Kenya and Ukraine, ²⁸ stirring homophobic and transphobic sentiment amongst the general public.

Increased risk of violence

The forms of discrimination listed above have significantly increased the risk of violence against LGBTI+ people in the public sphere. Lockdown measures have also forced many LGBTI+ people to live in confinement with homophobic and/or transphobic family members, leading to increased risk of mental health issues and domestic violence.²⁹

- 20 www.stonewall.org.uk/system/files/sdg-guide.pdf.
- 21 www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/23/panama-set-transgender-sensitive-quarantine-guidelines.
- ${\bf 22} \ \underline{www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25542\&LangID=E}.$
- 23 www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/03/uganda-lgbt-shelter-residents-arrested-covid-19-pretext.
- 24 www.hrw.org/news/2020/06/29/philippines-police-crack-down-lgbt-protest.
- 25 www.hrw.org/news/2020/05/13/covid-19-backlash-targets-lgbt-people-south-korea.
- 26 <u>www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-rabbi-blames-coronavirus-outbreak-on-gay-pride-parades</u>
- 27 www.ekathimerini.com/252534/opinion/ekathimerini/comment/turkish-government-scapegoats-lgbti-community-for-covid-19-pandemic
- 28 outrightinternational.org/sites/default/files/COVIDsReportDesign_FINAL_LR_0.pdf.
- **29** Ibid.

LONG-TERM ISSUES

Physical and mental health

Some LGBTI+ people – who are already at greater risk of, or living with HIV/AIDS³⁰ – face increased impacts from COVID-19, due to restricted access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment and other services in the pandemic, according to UNAIDS³¹.

LGBTI+ people are also less likely to access healthcare settings³² for fear of discrimination. As a result of increased discrimination, and social isolation measures, LGBTI+ people are experiencing higher levels anxiety and other mental health conditions³³ also.

66 LGBTI+ populations are often disproportionately affected by crises, and Covid-19 is no exception. 99

Employment

Globally, LGBT+ people depend heavily on informal sectors for work often due to the exclusion they face in mainstream society, resulting in few employment rights or securities. The economic impact³⁴ of Covid-19 is likely to disproportionately affect LGBTI+ populations already managing precarious livelihoods, and will be made even worse by a global recession.

Future funding prospects

Many governments, including the UK, have postponed or cancelled funds planned for LGBTI+ rights, causing significant financial insecurity for CSOs³⁵ at a time when their communities need them most. This uncertainty is putting the very survival of many organisations in jeopardy, and by extension risks setting back the hard-won progress of the global movement at a moment when discrimination is increasing.³⁶

- 30 www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/hiv.html.
- 31 www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/pressreleaseandstatementarchive/2020/april/20200427_lgbti-covid.
- **32** www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/LGBT/LGBT/people.pdf.
- 33 <u>outrightinternational.org/sites/default/files/COVIDsReportDesign_FINAL_LR_0.pdf.</u>
- **34** Ibid.
- **35** Ibid.
- **36** See also, The Commonwealth Equality Network's (TCEN) report, LGBTI+ in the Commonwealth in the Covid-19 Era, prepared by Kaleidoscope Trust (www.commonwealth-covid19.com).

UK government's current commitments to the global LGBTI+ movement

O1 THE EQUAL RIGHTS COALITION (ERC) & COVID-19

As Co-Chair of the ERC, the UK has led, and signed, the ERC Covid-19 Statement,³⁷ committing to protect the human rights of LGBTI+ people during and beyond the pandemic, including:

- Measures to combat the Covid-19 pandemic which consider the specific impact on LGBTI persons.
- Governments [must] ensure that all policies related to the pandemic, including access to health care, information, housing, and
- financial and economic support, take into account LGBTI+ persons' needs in a proactive and non-discriminatory way.
- Donor governments must ensure humanitarian relief efforts and funds include a response to the specific needs of marginalised communities, such as LGBTI+ persons, by involving community-based organisations in their response and implementation.

02 MANIFESTO COMMITMENTS

The Government's 2019 Manifesto³⁸ states that leaving the European Union (EU) will allow the UK to do more on the international stage, including in the area of human rights. Leaving the EU will also free up approximately 9% of the UK's ODA budget (US\$1.8 billion in 2018),³⁹ which is yet to be reallocated. A proportion of these funds could be allotted to increased work on global LGBTI+ human rights, building the UK's reputation in this area at a time when there is a vacuum in traditional global leadership.

The Manifesto also explicitly states the government's ongoing support of marginalised communities such as LGBTI+ populations in the Global South and East, while emphasising its commitment to spending 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) on Official Development Assistance (ODA).

³⁷ www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-and-the-human-rights-of-lgbti-people-equal-rights-coalition-statement/equal-rights-coalitions-erc-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-and-the-human-rights-of-lgbti-persons.

³⁸ assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative 2019 Manifesto.pdf.

³⁹ <u>donortracker.org/country/united-kingdom.</u>

03 OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA)

The UK is the third largest aid donor in the world,⁴⁰ and in 2019 distributed £15.2 billion⁴¹ (\$19.4 billion) through development assistance. Yet In the period 2017/18, only 0.08% of all ODA was directed to LGBTI+ organisations.

The UK's ODA target of 0.7% of GNI is enshrined in law, and the government has stated that this commitment will be honoured in 2020,⁴² even as the economy contracts due

to the global pandemic. Funding priorities remain flexible and are expected to be informed by the upcoming Integrated Review of the Foreign, Commonwealth, Development Office (FCDO) Merger, as well as the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR).⁴³ This will provide an opportunity to reaffirm and increase commitments to global LGBTI+ rights, potentially funded through savings on European Union (EU) ODA contributions noted above.

04 the sustainable development goals (SDGS) and the promise to 'leave no-one behind'

The 17 SDGs⁴⁴ were adopted by all UN member states, including the UK, in 2015. Since then the UK has consistently reaffirmed its commitment to the SDG 'Leave No-One Behind' principle,⁴⁵

which ensures that the SDGs are inclusive of the world's most vulnerable, including LGBTI+ people.

05 foreign & commonwealth office (FCO) & department for international development's (DFID) commitments to LGBTI+ RIGHTS

In its Diversity & Equality Report 2018-19,⁴⁶ the FCO states that fighting LGBT discrimination is 'an important part' of their wider human rights work.

DfID's Strategic Objectives commit it to Strengthening global peace, security and governance,⁴⁷ focusing on LGBT inclusion through the UK Aid Connect Programme. However, due to Covid-19, funding for this programme has been postponed indefinitely.

In its Approach on LGB&T Rights, ⁴⁸ DfID recognises that human rights are essential in underpinning sustainable development. To reach this goal, DfID acknowledges the need to support civil society and others in driving 'local change, including shifts in social attitudes and increased political support for human rights'.

DfID's Strategic Vision for Gender Equality,⁴⁹ also explicitly notes how girls and women may be left behind due to sexuality, and the strategy will be guided by an inclusive approach as a result.

- **40** donortracker.org/country/united-kingdom#:~:text=The%20United%20Kingdom%20(UK)%20is,operation%20and%20 Development%20(OECD).
- 41 <u>assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878395/Statistics-on-International-Development-Provisional-UK-Aid-Spend-2019.pdf.</u>
- **42** www.gov.uk/government/publications/official-development-assistance-oda-spending-for-2020-first-secretary-of-states-letter/official-development-assistance-oda-spending-for-2020-first-secretary-of-states-letter.
- 43 www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-launches-comprehensive-spending-review.
- 44 www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment.
- 45 www.gov.uk/government/publications/leaving-no-one-behind-our-promise/leaving-no-one-behind-our-promise.
- **46** assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/856459/FCO_Diversity_and_Equality_Report_201819.pdf.
- 47 assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/815787/ARA-2019.pdf.
- $\textbf{48} \hspace{0.1cm} \underline{\textbf{globalphilanthropyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/LGBT-DFID-Approach-paper.pdf.} \\$
- **49** assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/708116/Strategic-vision-gender-equality1.pdf.

06 the government equalities office (Geo) LGBT action plan

The LGBT Action Plan⁵⁰ highlights the special responsibility that the UK has in addressing laws discriminating against LGBT people in the Commonwealth, owing to so many originating from Britain's colonial-era legislation. The Action Plan committed £5.6 million to support countries wanting to repeal such laws. The result was the Equality & Justice Alliance launched at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2018. While

this is commendable, the project only spanned five countries receptive to change, and has now reached completion.

The Action Plan also pledges to promote LGBT rights through multilateral organisations, the private sector and international civil society organisations. Yet the 2018-2019 Annual Progress Report⁵¹ failed to mention whether or how this had been achieved to date.

07 GEO/ERC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Action Plan also commits the UK to hosting an international conference. This was postponed due to Covid-19, yet if rescheduled, the event will provide the UK government an opportunity to publicly announce the ERC's

new 5-year strategy, currently being developed by the FCO, alongside a significant funding commitment to ensure long-term sustainability of the global sector.

08 THE FCDO MERGER

In September 2020, the UK merged the FCO and DfID to create the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO).52 Limitations of the current DfID CSO partnership model have been widely noted.⁵³ As such, the merger presents an opportunity to rethink project funding and operational models, enabling more funds to reach CSOs directly in-country more swiftly, and with more autonomy. For instance, through a bespoke fund or using the Embassy model favoured by Sweden and the Netherlands, which the UK has already suggested could be a more appropriate model for civil society engagement,54 the government could strengthen DfID's current commitment to realising 'local change'.

The merger may also allow the new department to think beyond DflD's current list of ODA recipients to include additional countries with poor human rights records on LGBTI+ issues, as well as other countries aligned with the UK's post-Brexit business interests by promoting the economic case for LGBTI+ inclusion.

⁵⁰ assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721367/GEO-LGBT-Action-Plan.pdf.

⁵¹ <u>assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/814579/20190702_LGBT_Action_Plan_Annual_Report_WESC.pdf.</u>

 $^{{\}bf 52}\ \ www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-merger-of-department-for-international-development-and-foreign-office.}$

⁵³ icai.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/DFIDs-partnerships-with-civil-society-organisations.pdf.

⁵⁴ <u>donortracker.org/country/united-kingdom</u>.

The potential impact of increased funding

As with any social justice movement, the funding of civil society is essential in empowering communities and individuals to advance and protect the fundamental human rights of LGBTI+ people. While funding from the international community is vital to strengthening and sustaining the global LGBTI+ sector and at times in providing

technical support, local civil society actors with innate understanding of context-specific issues are critical to realising and legitimising rights at the country level. The examples below provide a snapshot of select successes within the global movement, which would have been impossible to achieve without the leadership of local and regional LGBTI+ CSOs.⁵⁵

TABLE 4

THEME	COUNTRY	ACTIVITY	CSO LEADERSHIP
Crisis response	Russia/ Canada	2017 – present: Chechnya's state-led LGBTI+ genocide. ⁵⁶	The Russian LGBT Network ⁵⁷ has undertaken extremely dangerous activities to enable the relocation of LGBTI+ Chechens to other countries. Most notably Canada, with the support of the CSO Rainbow Railroad ⁵⁸ which has secured asylum for over 70 individuals.
Decriminalisation	India	2018: Struck down Section 377 (Unnatural Offences Act) through litigation	Naz Foundation ⁵⁹ filed first case for decriminalisation in 2009. Voices Against 377 ⁶⁰ is a collective of 12 CSOs which lent support to a series of cases leading up to the 2018 win.
	Botswana	2019: Decriminalised same-sex relations through litigation (currently at the Court of Appeal)	LEGABIBO: ⁶¹ Botswana's primary LGBTI+ CSO, has led successive legislative challenges since 2016, with the regional support of the Southern African Litigation Centre (SALC) ⁶² and BONELA, ⁶³ a local HIV/human rights CSO. Vital support due to funding constraints on LEGABIBO throughout the years-long campaigning.

- **55** This table lists **some** of the key CSOs which led to change. It is not an exhaustive list of all CSOs which played active roles in these instances. These additional CSOs cannot be listed due to the constraints of this report.
- **56** www.hrw.org/news/2019/05/08/russia-new-anti-gay-crackdown-chechnya.
- 57 www.lgbtnet.org/en.
- 58 www.rainbowrailroad.org/what-we-do/chechnya.
- **59** www.nazindia.org.
- 60 www.voicesagainst377.org.
- **61** <u>legabibo.wordpress.com/about</u>.
- 62 www.southernafricalitigationcentre.org/countries/botswana.
- 63 www.bonela.org.

14 THE BARING FOUNDATION

THEME	COUNTRY	ACTIVITY	CSO LEADERSHIP
Equal marriage	Taiwan	2019: The Government legalised same-sex marriage	TAPCPR ⁶⁴ has been fighting for equal marriage since 2009, and registered since 2012 with support from international NGOs. In 2017 the Constitutional Court ruled the marriage law unconstitutional.
Right to dignity, privacy, and a fair trial Right to Freedom of Association	Kenya	2018: Successful petition overturned lower court ruling which deemed forced anal examinations constitutional. ⁶⁵ 2019: Court of Appeal ruled that a leading Kenyan LGBT CSO had the right to register. ⁶⁶	The National Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC) ⁶⁷ led both cases in their various iterations through the courts, supported by other Kenyan LGBTI+ CSOs including GALCK ⁶⁸ and NYARWEK, and international NGOs. These wins followed several years of wins/ challenges/appeals in the Kenyan courts. In 2019, Kenya's High Court upheld laws criminalising homosexuality. ⁶⁹ This came 3 years after the initial decriminalisation petition and years of planning/evidence collation.
Trans rights	Guyana	2018: Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) struck down Guyana's cross-dressing law as unconsti- tutional. ⁷⁰	Guyana's leading LGBTI+ CSO, SASOD ⁷¹ worked in partnership with other local and global CSOs such as Guyana Trans United since 2009, and Frontline AIDS ⁷² from 2017, to secure the win, despite homosexuality still being criminalised in the country.

LGBTI+ INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Although global LGBTI+ funding is insufficient in general, funding of LGBTI+ development outcomes is particularly sparse. Less than 8% (US\$23.1m) of all global LGBTI+ funding was awarded for direct service provision, with no donor government included within the top 20 funders.⁷³ Regardless, LGBTI+

organisations are providing direct services to improve the lives of their communities. 83% of Outright Action International's 1488 applications received for its *Covid-19 Global LGBTIQ Emergency Fund*⁷⁴ requested support for development-related activities across 131 countries. Data from the Global Resources Report also indicates that almost 80% of trans organisations provide social services.⁷⁵

- 64 tapcpr.org/english/about-us.
- 65 www.hrw.org/news/2018/03/22/kenya-court-finds-forced-anal-exams-unconstitutional.
- $\textbf{66} \ \ www.humandignitytrust.org/news/win-for-human-rights-kenya-appeal-court-allows-registration-of-lgbt-organisation.$
- 67 www.nglhrc.com.
- 68 www.galck.org.
- $\textbf{69} \ \underline{www.hrw.org/news/2019/05/24/kenya-court-upholds-archaic-anti-homosexuality-laws}.$
- **70** www.reuters.com/article/us-guyana-lgbt-crossdressing/guyana-strikes-down-law-against-improper-cross-dressing-idUSKCN1NJ2R6.
- **71** sasod.org.gy.
- 72 <u>frontlineaids.org/our-work-includes/rapid-response-fund</u>.
- **73** Figures from the GPP. Not inclusive of the USA.
- **74** <u>outrightinternational.org/sites/default/files/COVID19_Briefing_Paper_OutRight.pdf.</u>
- **75** s3.amazonaws.com/astraea.production/app/asset/uploads/2017/10/Trans-REPORT-for-the-web-Updated.pdf.

COUNTERING ANTI-LGBTI+ AGENDAS AND SUPPORTING NASCENT LGBTI+ ADVOCACY

Despite the achievements outlined above, far more could be achieved if the sector were adequately funded, or at the very least, protected against a growing, international anti-LGBTI+ alliance,⁷⁶ reaching from the USA and Brazil to Italy and the heart of Europe.

According to a 2018 ILGA Europe Funding Report,⁷⁷ a quarter of LGBTI+ CSOs in Southern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central and West Asia have no external funding. This is of particular concern, and may potentially even be a factor, to the dramatic roll-back of rights and increased persecution of LGBTI+ people in a growing number of countries in these regions, including Russia,⁷⁸ Chechnya,⁷⁹ Hungary⁸⁰ and Poland.⁸¹

In Sub-Saharan Africa, the governments of Uganda, 82 Nigeria 83 and Tanzania 84 have sustained multiyear-long campaigns against LGBTI+ communities, as evidenced in the creation of discriminatory laws and policies, and allowing attacks against LGBTI+ people to take place in an environment of impunity.

Much of the anti-LGBT+ rhetoric has been led by conservative religious groups,⁸⁵ making it critical to engage with religious leaders, particularly those who support LGBTI+ communities, in order to combat this growing culture of homophobia and transphobia.

The Global Resources Report⁸⁶ makes clear that other regions where civil society is weakest, such as the Middle East and North Africa,⁸⁷ or shrinking, as in many parts of Asia and the Pacific,⁸⁸ also receive comparatively little funding.⁸⁹ This is despite growing, organised, LGBTI+ activism in regions such the MENA,⁹⁰ which could greatly benefit from increased international support. Strong civil societies ensure citizens are able to hold their governments to account⁹¹ and can contribute to healthy economies.⁹² Nurturing local LGBTI+ civil society could help strengthen human rights and democratic institutions in these regions more broadly.

THE UK'S POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION

An average of 0.3% of ODA per year over five years would safeguard and strengthen the global LGBTI+ sector at an uncertain and critical moment in its history. It will also come at a time of change and opportunity for the UK, as it transitions out of the EU and seeks to reassert itself as a global leader in human rights more generally.

A commitment of approximately 0.3% of ODA per year over five years would make a substantive difference to the funding landscape. This level of funding would represent a scale of resourcing that could target and empower local civil society activity in a number of regions with a focus on priority populations. As evidenced by the examples in the table above, legislative reform often takes years of small wins and setbacks before finally being concretely achieved and secured in the long term. A five-year funding commitment will provide civil society with the confidence to set out similarly ambitious goals for the years to come.

- $\textbf{76} \hspace{0.1cm} \underline{\text{medium.com/an-injustice/the-future-of-lgbtq-rights-is-not-looking-good-49584d5e505a}. \\$
- 77 www.ilga-europe.org/sites/default/files/funding_for_lgbti_activism_in_europe_and_central_asia.pdf.
- $\textbf{78} \ \underline{\text{www.lgbtnet.org/en/newseng/statement-board-russian-lgbt-network-draft-bill-strengthen-and-protect-family-institutions}.$
- **79** www.hrw.org/news/2019/05/08/russia-new-anti-gay-crackdown-chechnya.
- 80 www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25844&LangID=E.
- **81** balkaninsight.com/2020/02/25/a-third-of-poland-declared-lgbt-free-zone.
- 82 www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/03/uganda-lgbt-shelter-residents-arrested-covid-19-pretext.
- **83** www.reuters.com/article/us-nigeria-lgbt-widerimage/a-police-raid-viral-videos-and-the-broken-lives-of-nigerian-gay-law-suspects-idUSKCN20I105.
- 84 www.hrw.org/report/2020/02/03/if-we-dont-get-services-we-will-die/tanzanias-anti-lgbt-crackdown-and-right.
- $\textbf{85} \hspace{0.1cm} \underline{\textbf{globalphilanthropyproject.org}/2018/11/04/religious-conservatism-on-the-\underline{\textbf{global-stage-threats-and-challenges-for-lgbti-rights}}.$
- $\textbf{86} \hspace{0.1cm} \underline{\textbf{globalresources report.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GRR_2017-2018_Color.pdf}. \\$
- 87 www.idea.int/news-media/news/space-civil-society-really-shrinking.
- **88** Ibid.
- 89 See Annex 2: The Global Resources Report map of funding by geographic region.
- **90** See Human Rights Watch's report, Audacity in Adversity, specifically sections: 'Effective Activism in Constrained Spaces' and 'Building Community' (www.hrw.org/report/2018/04/16/audacity-adversity/lgbt-activism-middle-east-and-north-africa).
- **91** www.hrw.org/news/2016/01/27/great-civil-society-choke-out.
- **92** www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/06/activism-civil-society-good-for-business.

The potential benefits to increasing the UK's geographic focus on global LGBTI+ rights

The problem:

UNDER RESOURCING COMBINED WITH THEMATIC & GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS

Though the UK has positioned itself as a global leader in LGBTI+ rights and has made numerous commitments to promoting global equality, it is not leading in comparative terms of ODA spend, with just 0.08% designated to LGBTI+ issues.

Within this, 82.77% of UK funding was allocated to 5 African cities, with a further 17.2% committed to international (multilateral) work. As such, the UK spent 0% of its LGBTI+ designated funding on any other regions in the period 2017-18, preventing vital

support reaching other parts of the world experiencing acute or chronic homophobia and/ or transphobia. This percentage share is likely to fall further with the suspension of UK Aid Connect's SiDBol programme.

This marginal resource allocation is further limited by the UK government's list of ODA eligible countries, and by the key objective of ODA (poverty reduction), rather than electing for a broader, rights-based focus (which should be inclusive of poverty reduction).

The Solution:

UK INCREASES FINANCIAL AND POLICY COMMITMENT TO LGBTI+ ISSUES GLOBALLY, BASED ON VALUES AND NEED

Where funding has been made available, the Commonwealth continues to be an important space for UK intervention. This is commendable given the number of Commonwealth countries which inherited the UK's colonial-era sodomy laws, and which are still active today in one form or another. Indeed, of the 72 countries which continue to criminalise same-sex acts, almost 50% are located in the Commonwealth.93

While it is right that the UK continues to recognise the unique role it holds in addressing LGBTI+ issues in the Commonwealth, the lack of progress or active roll-back of rights in other parts of the world requires the UK to also think beyond this grouping. The UK should have the ability to set geographic priorities on the basis of need and impact.

Similarly, with the establishment of the FCDO, the UK should take an approach that looks beyond a strict focus on ODA countries and take a needs-based approach to allocating funds in low, lower middle income and upper

middle countries. Income status does not specifically track where the need for support of LGBTI+ people is greatest, and in some cases smaller investments in lower middle and upper middle income countries can more effectively deliver impactful change, which in turn can support regional systemic change.

A needs-based approach with less restricted geographic reach, coupled with increased and sustainable funding, would allow for both long-term strategic planning and acute crisis response of LGBTI+ issues.

The FCDO merger offers the opportunity of reimagining how the UK government provides ODA funding to its Civil Society partners, particularly in the Global South and East as well as in areas where DfID has not had a presence for some time, including Eastern Europe and Latin America, and may also serve as an innovative model for the wider International Development sector.

Priority populations

The following section highlights the state of funding in relation to different parts of the LGBTI+ community.

However, it is important to recognise that a person's sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, and sex/bodily characteristics are just four aspects of their lived experience. Other factors, such as location, age, religion, gender, profession, race, and ability, intersect with each other, exacerbating the discrimination that an individual may face.

For example, a white bisexual man in Poland may experience different forms of discrimination, with different consequences and/or with varying degrees of intensity, than that of a black trans woman in South Africa.

An intersectional lens dictates a more nuanced approach to funding, and for this reason a flexible operating model is required to meet these complexities. But the benefits of this approach are increasingly being recognised, and integral to achieving the SDG commitment to 'Leave No-One Behind'.94

LESBIANS, BISEXUAL & QUEER (LBQ) WOMEN

Worldwide, women continue to experience multiple gender-based inequalities, and are still consistently excluded by the states and systems that should serve them. For LBQ women, the intersecting issues of sexism and homophobia often result in even higher levels of discrimination and violence.⁹⁵

INTERSEX PEOPLE

An estimated 1.7% of people are born intersex, 96 with sex characteristics which do not conform to binary definitions of male and female anatomy, whether chromosomal or physiological. Intersex people are routinely subjected to forced, unnecessary, invasive surgeries to 'normalise' their sex characteristics, which can lead to severe physical and mental repercussions. 97

TRANS PEOPLE

Around the world, the likelihood that trans women are living with HIV ranges between 49 and 80 times higher than that of the general population. 98 16 countries in Europe and Central Asia continue to enforce sterilisation 99 as a requirement for legal gender recognition. Globally, many more countries' processes for marking gender and name changes on official documents have been denounced as flagrant human rights violations. 100 Between 2008 and 2019, 3314 trans people were reported as murdered across 74 countries. 101

- 94 www.basw.co.uk/system/files/resources/basw_125520-4_0.pdf.
- 95 fundlbq.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Astraea_MamaCash_LBQ_Summary_VDEF_Spreads.pdf.
- 96 www.hrw.org/news/2018/10/12/medical-experts-call-defer-unnecessary-intersex-surgeries.
- 97 oiieurope.org/recent-survey-shows-high-rate-of-medical-interventions-on-intersex-people-lack-consent.
- 98 <u>www.who.int/hiv/topics/transgender/en</u>.
- **99** tgeu.org/trans-rights-europe-central-asia-map-index-2019/#:~:text=About%20the%20Trans%20Rights%20Map%20 %26%20Index&text=The%20Trans%20Rights%20Europe%20%26%20Central,%2Ddiscrimination%2C%20health%20 and%20family.
- 100 ilga.org/downloads/ILGA Trans Legal Mapping Report 2017 ENG.pdf.
- 101 tdor.tgeu.org.

18 THE BARING FOUNDATION

LBQTI+ FUNDING IN FOCUS

LBQTI+ communities are routinely marginalised¹⁰² from wider conversations on LGBTI+ rights, as well as within wider human rights and international development sectors, such as gender equality, and health. This is evidenced by the funding landscape of these groups, as of 2017-2018:

- LBQ women were granted just \$20.6 million, or 8% of all global LGBTI+ funding.¹⁰³
- Transgender populations received only \$28 million in dedicated funding in the same period, equivalent to 11% all funding for LGBTI+ issues.¹⁰⁴
- Intersex groups received just 2% of global LGBTI+ funding, equating to a mere \$4 million.¹⁰⁵

 $^{{\}bf 102} \ \underline{out of the margins.org.} \underline{uk/resources/out-of-the-margins-report-2020}.$

 $[\]textbf{103} \hspace{0.1cm} \underline{\textbf{globalresources report.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GRR_2017-2018_Color.pdf}.$

¹⁰⁴ Ibid.

Key principles

The UKAGE has drafted **13 key principles** central to effective and ethical donor support of global LGBTI+ rights, and which should underscore any future funding initiatives by the UK government.

01	TRANSPARENCY	A clear open process in project design, call for proposals and communication, creating a sense of trust between donor and grantee.
02	ACCOUNTABILITY	Clear goal and target setting, enabling contractual agreements to be made with confidence and ensuring compliance on the part of partners.
03	ADHERE TO THE AMSTERDAM PRINCIPLES	Co-production with community and civil society engagement and financial resource allocation; support and contribute to change from the outside, based on leadership and guidance from within local community.
04	GLOBAL REACH	Thinking beyond the UK's current ODA-eligible countries and follow a needs-based approach to supporting global LGBTI+ rights.
05	ACKNOWLEDGE INTERSECTIONALITY	Taking into account the interconnectedness of traits such as class, race, and gender, which collectively exacerbate the discrimination felt by an individual or group.
06	SUPPORT ATTAINMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS	LGBTI+ rights are human rights, and their attainment should be the primary basis and incentive for donor support.
07	SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGS	Donor support should align with the SDGs and actively follow the principle of 'Leave No-One Behind'.
08	PROMOTE MAINSTREAMING OF LGBTI+ RIGHTS IN FCDO PROGRAMMES	The newly merged FCDO should ensure LGBTI+ rights are prioritised within all mainstream international development and humanitarian assistance projects.

20 THE BARING FOUNDATION

09	DEMONSTRATE UK LEADERSHIP	The UK should lead by example on global LGBTI+ rights, providing proactive support at local and regional levels and speaking out/elevating LGBTI+ voices at the international level.
10	RESPECT	Respect leadership of community-driven work, and support this at the global level.
11	INCLUSION	Supporting partner efforts to be included within wider society, as well as well as strengthening sub-groups' inclusion within the wider LGBTI+ movement and international programming.
12	MAXIMISING GOOD AND DO NO HARM	Recognising the potential impact that funds will have on civil society, seeking to maximise benefits for the greatest number while actively mitigating unintended negatives.
13	RISK MITIGATION	Ensure context is understood through community consultations, social assessments, etc – particularly before new funds become involved.

Key recommendations

The UK Government should:

01

Secure the long-term sustainability of the global LGBTI+ rights sector by committing an average of 0.3% of ODA per year over five years to safeguard and strengthen global LGBTI+ rights at an uncertain and urgent moment in history.

02

Use the FCDO merger as an opportunity to extend its global reach and influence on LGBTI+ rights, beyond DfID's current ODA priority and/or Commonwealth countries, enabling it to adopt a needs-based approach to supporting LGBTI+ people globally.

03

Create a new flexible funding mechanism based on the principles outlined in this paper, to ensure any future UK funding commitments on LGBTI+ rights have maximum impact within the communities they aim to serve.

04

Honour the numerous commitments it has made to LGBTI+ populations in the Global South and East, as stated in its 2019 manifesto and as Co-Chair of the Equal Rights Coalition, to ensure the UK's legacy as global leader in LGBTI+ rights.

05

Respond to the acute needs and disproportionate impact that Covid-19 has had on LGBTI+ communities globally through decisive leadership and resourcing.

06

Reinstate all global LGBTI+ initiatives postponed due to Covid-19 and continue to support inclusive development programmes interrupted by the global pandemic.

Annex 1

Examples of funding models

UK GOVERNMENT FUNDING MECHANISMS

FUNDING MODEL EXAMPLE	GENERAL STRENGTHS	GENERAL LIMITATIONS
DfID UK Aid Connect		
> Funds disbursed to grantees through a small number of large competitive grants based	> Greater CSO transparency& accountability.> DfID considered a supportive	> Onerous ⁴ process due to high levels of investment vs low success rate of winning grants.
on consortia. > The majority of the UK	donor ³ during implementation.	> Weak process management ⁵ led to project delays.
government's LGBTI+ funding is through DfID using this model.	> Brings together expertise from different sectors (private, CSO, academia, think tanks, etc).	Inflexible model with little room for adaptations.
> Led to LGBTI+ project, Strong in Diversity, Bold on Inclusion		> Reduces longer-term strategic thinking. ⁶
(SiDBol)¹ worth £12 million. > Part of wider UK Aid Connect² (£138 million).		> LGBTI+ project (SidBoI) has limited geographic reach (5 African cities).
		> SiDBol currently postponed indefinitely due to Covid-19.
Commonwealth 18-20 Fund (Equ	ality & Justice Alliance)	
> Sits within the UK's Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF)	> Took an intersectional approach to discrimination.	> Limited geographic reach.> Application process was closed

- Fairness Programme.7
- > Led to the creation of the Equality and Justice Alliance.8
- > £5.6 million grant for consortia focused on LGBTI+ & women's rights within Commonwealth.
- > Displayed UK leadership on global LGBTI+ issues.
- and non transparent.
- > Two-year project, ended in 2020. No current plans for renewal due to Covid-19.
- > Ambitious time period to expect legislative change in complex settings (2 years).

FCO Magna Carta Fund

- > £10 million⁹ aimed at strengthening global human rights, based on a specific region or democracy, and rule of law.
- > £1.1 million allocated to LGBTI+ activities.10
- > Individual targeted projects aimed at supporting British overseas interests.
- > Strongly linked into British embassies and consulates.
- > Open to multi country projects theme, allowing for flexibility in project design.
- > No restrictions on number of proposals accepted from a single implementer.
- > Open to all countries, but 97% of funding is reserved for UK ODA recipients.

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING MECHANISMS

FUNDING MODEL EXAMPLE

GENERAL STRENGTHS

GENERAL LIMITATIONS

Amplify Change

- > Based in Bath with offices in Ghana and USA.
- > Focused on sexual & reproductive health & rights (SRHR).
- > Originally run as a project established in 2014, it transitioned to an independent entity in 2020.11
- > Provided support on policy and legislative change in 24 countries.
- > Disbursed over €75 million.

- > Registered as an NGO by 8 members all representing civil society focused on youth and inclusion.
- > Global reach, based on need.
- > Grant applications are competitive and based on scheduled funding rounds.
- > Not specific to LGBTI+.12
- > 4% of funding allocated to Sub-Saharan Africa.13

Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice (public foundation model)

- > 63% of funds allocated to LBT+.14
- > \$6.6 million provided through programmes (2016).15
- > Based on feminist funding principles.
- > Located in New York, USA.
- > Focused on most disenfranchised > Supports in 62 countries but members of LGBTI+ community, including LBQ, trans, intersex, rural areas, and youth.
- > Provides long term often ten-year – funding.
- includes a heavy focus on the USA.

Dutch ministry of foreign affairs (BuZa) PITCH programme

- > Part of the Dutch government's Dialogue & Dissent Programme.¹⁶
- > HIV+ partnership led by Aidsfonds¹⁷ in collaboration with Frontline AIDS.18
- > Advocacy project¹⁹ supporting marginalised communities including LGBTI+.
- > Guided by an intersectional approach to programming.
- > Fair and transparent application process.
- > Relatively limited geographic reach.

Dutch/Swedish embassy (mission models)

- > In 2017/18, the Netherlands funded 78.5% of LGBTI+ funding through embassies.
- > 66.6% of Sweden's support of LGBTI+ sector was channelled through its embassies.
- > Denmark, Norway & Canada all partially fund activities through this model.
- > The UK currently funds 0% through its embassies/consulates.

- > Flexible funding model.
- > Broadly seen as a effective and direct way of engaging with civil society partners.
- > Enables civil society to engage in multi-stakeholder policy processes.20
- > Helps reduce the challenges donor governments have in reaching CSOs at the grassroots level.21
- > SIDA funding model only available via Swedish INGOs/ CSOs.22

FUNDING MODEL EXAMPLE

GENERAL STRENGTHS

GENERAL LIMITATIONS

Global Fund (GF)

> Formally the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.²³

Multilateral funding model.

- > \$4 billion per year allocated to in-country programming.²⁴
- > Works at community level through Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCM)²⁵ which oversee grants on behalf of GF.
- > Less politically sensitive than bilateral aid.
- > Ambitious and large-scale objectives.
- > Global in reach (over 100 countries).
- > Effective mechanism (CCM) for reaching grassroots & civil society.
- > Projects led by local experts.26
- > GF New Funding Model (NFM) criticised for moving away from lower-middle and upper-middle countries despite marginalised communities such as LGBTI+ still being disproportionately impact by HIV+.
- > CCM's vary in efficiency with some LGBTI+ actors feeling excluded from CCM processes²⁷ due to discrimination and/or criminalised statuses.
- > Prioritises men-who-havesex-with-men (MSM) and trans women in HIV programming due to high infection ates in these groups (less focus on other LGBTI+ populations).

Global Equality Fund (GEF)²⁸

- > Located in USA.
- > Managed by the Dpt of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor.²⁹
- > Public-Private Partnership.
- > A pooled fund for foundations, private sector and governments.
- > Flexible funding streams, including crisis support.
- > Able to offer direct grants to CSOs via embassies.
- > Small number of decisionmakers overseeing all grant applications.
- > Application and decision-making process not transparent.
- > Risks being influenced by US domestic policy positions on LGBTI+ issues.

International Trans Fund (participatory grant making fund)

- > Based in New York, USA.
- > Established in 2017.
- > Aims to increase the capacity of trans movements to self-organise and advocate for rights.³⁰
- > Flexible and accessible approach.
- > Follows an intersectional approach.³¹
- > Limits financial support to CSOs with operating budgets under \$150,000.

ISDAO (public foundation model)

- > Based in Nigeria and funding LGBTI+ CSOs across West Africa.
- > Established in 207/18³² to support increased activism in the region.
- > Flexible approach to grant-making.
- > Aims to create a culture of philanthropic giving in the region
- > Activist led.
- > Follows an intersectional approach³³ to funding.
- > Regional focus on West Africa.
- > Once yearly funding cycles.

FUNDING MODEL EXAMPLE

GENERAL STRENGTHS

GENERAL LIMITATIONS

The Other Foundation (public foundation model)

- > Established in 2014.
- > LGBTI+ fund based in South Africa and serving 9 countries in Southern Africa.³⁴
- > Heavy focus on knowledge production (research/reports).
- > Follows an intersectional approach to grantmaking.³⁵
- > Locally based Foundation with governance and decision making by LGBTI+ people from the region.
- > Supports new and emerging activism.
- > Regional focus on Southern Africa.

Robert Carr Network Foundation (RCNF)³⁶

- > Multiple donors pool funds for a specific country or theme.
- > Overseen by a Secretariat.
- > HIV funding mechanism which strengthens CSO networks.³⁷
- > DfID contributed to 24% of RCNF funds in period 2016-18.
- > Flexible and responsive.
- > Improved risk management.
- > Governance process ensures communities affected are represented.
- > Introduces a layer of intermediation³⁸ risking higher transaction costs

UHAI-EASHRI (public foundation, participatory model)

- > Established in 2009.³⁹
- > LGBTI+ fund based in Nairobi, Kenya, and serving 7 countries in East Africa.
- > Providing grants and capacity support.⁴⁰
- > Leads on the conference Changing Faces Changing Spaces,⁴¹ bringing together global and local donors and activists bi-annually.
- > Grants are decided by local activists living and experiencing discrimination in the local context.
- > Provides multi-year funding.
- > Risk-taking for the support of small/new/under-resourced CSOs. 42
- > Regional focus on East Africa.

USAID/SIDA (LGBTI-GDP)

- > Manages the LGBTI Global Development Partnership (LGBTI-GDP).⁴³
- > Public-Private partnership.
- > Two projects focused on human rights and on equality.⁴⁴
- > Focused on capacity building, leadership training, and economic empowerment.
- > Funded almost \$3 million across 139 grants.⁴⁵
- > Seeks innovative solutions such as the establishment of LGBT Chambers of Commerce⁴⁶ in five countries.
- > Limited reach (14 countries worldwide).
- > First programme came to a close in 2018.
- > Second programme comes to a close in 2020.

FUNDING MODEL EXAMPLE

GENERAL STRENGTHS

GENERAL LIMITATIONS

Act Together for Inclusion Fund (ACTIF)

- > Created following Canada's Co-Chairship of the ERC 2018/19
- > New Canadian LGBTI+ fund,⁴⁶ launched in August 2020 resulting from Canadian funding pledge⁴⁷ following on from the at ERC Conference held in Vancouver 2018.⁴⁸
- > Funded through Global Affairs Canada.⁴⁹
- > CAN \$30 million made available through 3 funding streams.
- > ACTIF is the first tranche of this funding and equates to CAN \$10 million.
- > Fund managed by Equitas⁵⁰ and Dignity Network.⁵¹
- > Programme will run to January 2027.

- > Likely to have broad geographic reach (lists all DAC ODA countries).⁵²
- > Guided by several key principles outlined in this report including transparency, intersectionality and inclusion.

All grants funded through Canadian intermediaries,⁵³ limiting scope for in-country CSO autonomy.

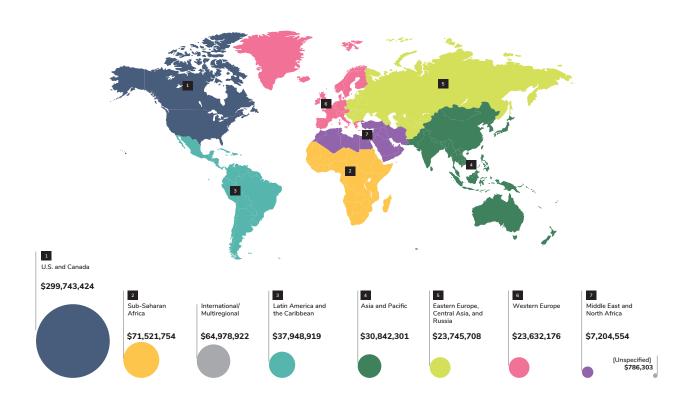
ANNEX 1 NOTES:

- 1 www.hivos.org/program/strong-in-diversity-bold-on-inclusion.
- 2 www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/uk-aid-connect.
- 3 icai.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/DFIDs-partnerships-with-civil-society-organisations.pdf.
- 4 Ibid.
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 Ibid.
- 7 www.gov.uk/government/publications/conflict-stability-and-security-fund-commonwealth-programme-summaries-2018to-2019.
- 8 kaleidoscopetrust.com/what-we-do/equality-and-justice-alliance.
- 9 reliefweb.int/report/world/launch-10m-magna-carta-fund-human-rights-and-democracy.
- 10 assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/806851/human-rights-democracy-2018-foreign-and-commonwealth-office-report.pdf.
- 11 amplifychange.org/2020/05/21/independent-entity-announcement.
- 12 amplifychange.org/impact.
- 13 Ibid
- 14 www.astraeafoundation.org/about-us/programmatic-pillars/#:~:text=63%25%20of%20our%20funding%20goes.grantee%20 partners%20in%2027%20countries.&text=98%25%20of%20our%20U.S.%20funding.people%20of%20color%2Dled%20 organizations.
- 15 Ibid
- 16 www.government.nl/topics/grant-programmes/dialogue-and-dissent-strategic-partnerships-for-lobby-and-advocacy.
- 17 aidsfonds.org.
- 18 frontlineaids.org/our-work-includes/pitch.
- 19 aidsfonds.org/work/pitch.
- 20 www.sida.se/contentassets/86933109610e48929d76764121b63fc6/10202931_guiding_principle_2019_no_examples_web.pdf.
- 21 Ibid.
- 22 www.acrplus.org/images/publication/ACRMED/Funding_Factsheets/CN009_SIDA-EN.pdf.
- 23 www.theglobalfund.org/en.
- 24 Ibid.
- 25 www.theglobalfund.org/en/country-coordinating-mechanism.
- 26 www.theglobalfund.org/en.
- 27 aidsaccountability.org/docs/AIDS Accountability Global Fund Country coordinating mechanisms Gemma Oberth Final.pdf.
- 28 www.state.gov/global-equality-fund.
- 29 www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-civilian-security-democracy-and-human-rights/bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor.
- 30 www.transfund.org
- **31** <u>www.transfund.org/about-us/our-principles</u>.
- 32 www.isdao.org/our-identity/our-history.
- 33 www.isdao.org/our-identity.
- 34 theotherfoundation.org/regions.
- 35 theotherfoundation.org/about-us.
- 36 robertcarrfund.org.
- **37** Ibid.
- 38 www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/qcpr/6_UN Inter-agency pooled funds.pdf.
- 39 <u>uhai-eashri.org/fre/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Annual-Report-16-17.pdf.</u>
- **40** <u>uhai-eashri.org/be/#spy-1</u>.
- **41** Ibid.
- **42** Ibid.
- **43** www.usaid.gov/news-information/fact-sheets/lgbt-global-development-partnership#:~:text=The%20LGBTI%2DGDP%20 empowers%20LGBTI,policy%20and%20programs%3B%20and%20promoting.
- 44 www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2496/LGBTI_Global_Development_Partnership_Fact_Sheet_Final_160622.pdf.
- **45** Ibid.
- $\textbf{46} \hspace{0.1cm} \underline{\text{equitas.org/where-we-work/internationally-act-together-for-inclusion-fund/} \#\underline{\text{ftn1}}.$
- 47 www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/02/canada-announces-new-funds-in-support-of-lgbtq2-rights.html.
- $\label{thm:www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/08/canada-commits-to-further-supporting-the-rights-of-lgbtq2-and-intersex-persons.html.$
- 49 www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/index.aspx?lang=eng.
- **50** equitas.org/who-we-are/our-mission-vision-and-values.
- **51** www.dignityinitiative.ca/en.
- **52** www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/DAC-List-of-ODA-Recipients-for-reporting-2020-flows.pdf.
- **53** equitas.org/where-we-work/internationally-act-together-for-inclusion-fund/#_ftn1.

28

Annex 2

The Global Resources Report¹ map of funding by geographic region



Endorsed by the following organisations from the UK Alliance for Global Equality:

African Rainbow Equality Network Kaleidoscope Trust ReportOUT

Family

Frontline AIDS Micro Rainbow Stonewall Equality
All Out International

House of Guramayle Foundation STOPAIDS
Commonwealth HIV

& AIDS Action Group Human Dignity Trust Ozanne Foundation UK Black Pride

Supported by the Baring Foundation. Written by Ross Othen-Reeves.

The Baring Foundation

8-10 Moorgate

London EC2R 6DA

020 7767 1348

www.baringfoundation.org.uk

Twitter: @baring_found

September 2020