

## International Development programme

### Call for tenders for an independent evaluation of the programme

The Baring Foundation is pleased to announce a call for tenders for an independent evaluation of its International Development programme.

In 2021 the Foundation will be undertaking a broad review of the programme after seven years supporting locally based civil society in sub-Saharan Africa to address discrimination and disadvantage based on gender, sexual orientation or gender identity. We have a specific interest in supporting organisations that address discrimination against lesbian, bisexual and queer (LBQ) women and trans people.

#### Aims for the evaluation

This evaluation will inform the strategic direction of the International Development programme for at least the next five years. It is a key part of the review process and we want it to be intellectually challenging with practical recommendations for our future activities.

The process will examine all our activities, but we would like the evaluation to focus particularly on these questions:

- **Local grantmakers:** Have we been an effective partner for the three local grantmakers we support? How has our funding and engagement impacted their strategies and operations?
- **Civil society:** How have grants from our partners shaped LBQ and trans civil society in their regions? What contribution have our partners' non-grant programmes and participatory grantmaking made to progress for LBQ and trans people? Do our direct grants to civil society organisations play a helpful role?
- **Influencing:** How, if at all, has our work influenced others in the UK? Has it led to an increase in resources to our partners and local civil society?

Most importantly, what parts of our approach should we retain and what can we do differently in the next five years?

## Background

We are an independent foundation which protects and advances human rights and promotes inclusion. We believe in the role of a strong, independent civil society nationally and internationally. We use our resources to enable civil society to work with people experiencing discrimination and disadvantage and to act strategically to tackle the root causes of injustice and inequality.

The International Development programme has focused on addressing discrimination faced by LBQ women and trans people in sub-Saharan Africa since 2015. Through the programme we aim to:

- develop the capacity and financial sustainability of civil society organisations, leading to an increase in the quality and quantity of advocacy for policy and cultural change and community support;
- enhance the work of local grantmakers that fund LGBTI civil society, particularly their focus on LBQ and trans communities;
- facilitate collaboration to leverage experience and skills that achieve national, regional and international change, track civil society activity and document successful models;
- use our role as a UK grantmaker to champion the role of local LGBTI civil society and highlight the successes and challenges of our partners through our networks; and
- bring further resources to the field, with a particular focus on funders based in the UK.

To achieve this we have focused our work on three areas:

- **front line civil society organisations:** working with local grantmakers to ensure our funding reaches locally based civil society organisations - supporting their ability to determine appropriate strategies and structures, to collaborate and to make change;
- **local grantmakers:** supporting and developing the operations of local grantmakers that are rooted in local LGBTI communities and involve activists in their decision making, enhancing their capacity to make grants and build civil society - framing our support within our specific focus on LBQ and trans civil society and partnering with them to convene and share knowledge; and
- **championing the role of local civil society:** using our influence to highlight the work of our partners, developing the evidence base for the impact of local civil society and attracting further resources to local LGBTI civil society.

If successful, this activity will lead to:

- a local LGBTI civil society more able to advocate for policy and cultural change and to provide community support through robust and sustainable organisations and individuals;

- further access to local grantmakers for civil society, increasing the coverage of relevant organisations and the resources available to them;
- a clear focus on the particular challenges faced by LBQ and trans communities and individuals by local grantmakers and programming designed to address them;
- evidence of when, where and how local civil society can achieve policy change or cultural change and how effective tactics might be replicated;
- increasing focus on African LGBTI civil society in the UK, particularly in the public sector and among trusts and foundations which leads to further resources for African LGBTI civil society from funders of all kinds.

Since 2015, we have awarded 53 grants for a total value of £4.4 million reflecting activity in relation to all three areas outlined above. A database of our funding is available [here](#).

A key part of our strategy is to work with locally-based grantmakers, which focuses on three partnerships with [UHAI EASHRI](#), [the Other Foundation](#) and [Initiative Sankofa D'Afrique De L'Ouest](#) (ISDAO). We have awarded a number of multi-year grants to these organisations since 2015 and these partnerships represent a significant proportion of our spending during this period.

We also support a small number of civil society organisations in Southern Africa directly with core grants, as well as awarding a number of grants that intend to develop the evidence base for the impact of local civil society and attract further resources to this work.

A core value of the Foundation is collaboration and we seek to build positive, purposeful partnerships with grantholders, grantmakers and others in order to work together for socially just change. We aim to achieve this in all our relationships, but we also join formal collaborations where relevant to our programme strategies. As part of this programme, we are members of the [Global Philanthropy Project](#).

The Foundation awards grants by invitation only under this programme.

Further information on all the work of the Foundation is available on our [website](#).

### **Expectations for the evaluation**

Through this call for tenders, we would like to appoint evaluator(s) to undertake an independent assessment of our aims, activities and outcomes for the programme. We expect this to include a review of data held by the Foundation including (but not limited to):

- grant recommendations and applications;
- grant reporting, including annual monitoring reports and final reports;
- commissioned research; and
- relevant meeting papers.

Most grant files include the following paperwork: an application, annual monitoring reports/final reports from the grantholder, a grant recommendation and annual/final monitoring assessment from Foundation staff. In almost all cases, these documents will be under 2,000 words in length. Stakeholder interviews may also be required for key grants

We also expect that evaluator(s) will examine the broader context for funding in this field, which is likely to involve interviews with external stakeholders and the inclusion of relevant external research and data.

However, we are open to different approaches to conducting the evaluation and welcome tender submissions using a variety of methodological approaches.

In 2020, we have adapted our grantmaking to reflect the context of the coronavirus pandemic. The evaluation could also include some reflections on these approaches in the context of our strategy.

Expected outputs are an evaluation report and a presentation to relevant Board members of the Foundation. The form of the report will be agreed with the Foundation following the award of the contract, but we expect it to be relatively concise (10-20 pages) inclusive of an executive summary with key findings and recommendations.

### **Eligibility to tender**

We welcome tenders from any qualified individual or organisation, including not-for-profit organisations, companies and universities.

In addition to the professional experience required, it is highly desirable that any evaluator can demonstrate a strong understanding of the lived experience of LGBTI communities in sub-Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on LBQ women and/or trans communities.

### **Costs**

The Foundation will award a contract for a maximum value of £20,000 to undertake this evaluation. This amount is inclusive of all time, expenses, relevant taxes or any other associated costs.

### **Timetable**

<b>Call for tenders</b>	<b>17 November 2020</b>
<b>Deadline for tenders</b>	<b>8 December 2020 (5pm GMT)</b>
<b>Applicants notified</b>	<b>w/c 21 December 2020</b>
<b>Evaluation commences</b>	<b>18 January 2021</b>

<b>Draft report submitted</b>	<b>26 March 2021</b>
<b>Feedback from Foundation</b>	<b>2 April 2021</b>
<b>Final report submitted</b>	<b>16 April 2021</b>
<b>Presentation to Board members</b>	<b>19 May 2021</b>

**Tender**

In order to consider your tender, we must receive the following by **5pm GMT on 8 December 2020**:

**1. Proposal**

The proposal must be no more than 2,000 words and should cover your:

- **interest in this evaluation.** You should comment on our aims for the evaluation and outline why you would be interested to support our learning in relation to them;
- **skills and experience.** Outline your experience as an evaluator and how it is relevant to this tender. You should provide specific detail relevant to evaluating:
  - partnerships with locally based grantmakers; and
  - the role of Foundations in influencing, networking and convening;
- **understanding of the lived experience of LGBTI communities** in sub-Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on LBQ women and/or trans communities;
- **proposed approach to the evaluation.** Any specific methodology you plan to use and any details on your approach to reviewing our data and engaging with external stakeholders; and
- **questions for the Foundation.** Any further information you need from us to undertake the evaluation.

**2. Budget**

An indicative budget that clearly explains how your costs are calculated, apportionment of time and any expenses, taxes or additional fees. It should include:

- total time allocated for the evaluation;
- time allocated to different elements – document review, interviews etc;
- anticipated number of interviews with internal and external stakeholders; and
- all additional costs.

### **3. References**

Details of two referees. Please note, we will take references as part of the due diligence process before contracts are executed.

### **4. CV**

The CV of the lead evaluator(s).

The required documents at (1)-(4) above should be sent as separate documents by email to [baring.foundation@ing.com](mailto:baring.foundation@ing.com) by 5pm GMT on 8 December 2020 with the subject line "International evaluation tender - name of applicant".

### **Contact**

If you have any questions in relation to this tender, please contact David Sampson at the Baring Foundation by email at [david.sampson@ing.com](mailto:david.sampson@ing.com).

**The Baring Foundation**  
**17 November 2020**