

GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND



SCALING INNOVATIONS THAT DRIVE CLIMATE ACTION AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



ABOUT THE GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND

The Global Innovation Fund (GIF) supports innovators to create sustainable impact at scale, and measurably improve the lives of underserved people and communities. GIF focuses on climate resilience and inclusive economic opportunities as key levers to ensuring social impact is equitable and durable.

GIF invests across Africa and Asia to de-risk breakthrough solutions and enable large-scale adoption. In addition, GIF addresses the barriers to scaling impactful innovations by generating insights and learning to strengthen the field.



GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND'S ROLE IN A CHANGING WORLD

GIF works at the intersection of international development, innovation and impact investing. As philanthropy and bilateral donors begin to look beyond grant-only models, GIF brings its rooted, decade-long experience in using flexible instruments to elevate innovators where they are.

As bilateral aid declines, the current alternatives of philanthropy and impact investment offer critical support, yet lack the necessary risk tolerance or scale experience. With our 10+ years of experience deploying blended capital across grants, debt and equity, we see this as a critical juncture in driving large-scale improvements in people's lives. Our analysis has underpinned critical shifts that this strategy aims to respond to.

- Social innovators face a finance gap between start-up funding and commercial investment, leading highly promising and impactful frontrunners to stall.
- Innovations are not able to scale due to market barriers and weak enabling environments.
- Public finance is facing increasing and rising pressures, exacerbating the need to demonstrate value for money and leverage private capital.
- The recent rapid growth in impact investment since GIF's inception risks fragmentation and requires collaborative approaches.

REFLECTIONS FROM A DECADE OF INVESTMENTS

Our new strategy builds on a decade of delivery, learning and adaptation, placing GIF as a focused, evidence-led, scale-enabler, delivering systems-level change.

Since 2014, GIF has deployed, learned and iterated in our approach to scaling innovation. We blend private capital, bilateral, private philanthropy with locally-led, context-informed approaches that improve lives.

The past decade was one of significant delivery. At the end of 2025, GIF's portfolio had grown to 80 funded innovations, and our catalytic funding mobilised capital at an eight times multiple against grants and investments. Approximately nine dollars is generated in social value for every dollar invested, and to date, we have reached 138 million people. GIF has actively helped portfolio partners to attract more than \$1.5 billion in follow-on funding.

By disrupting traditional development approaches, GIF has built a proven model, with 40% of our portfolio successfully scaled or on track to do so.

GIF's additionality includes:

- Deep intelligence on scaling pathways, across public, commercial and hybrid pathways to scale.



- Institutional post-investment support, including ESG and gender-lens integration, fundraising capabilities, evidence generation and impact measurement, and technical assistance.
- Catalytic funding and first mover advantage, including providing patient capital, a blend of financial instruments (grants, debt and equity), and support to investees at times of financial distress.

GIF's portfolio does not rely on making 'safe bets', but focuses on where the greatest impact at scale can be leveraged.

During this period, we deepened our partnerships with anchor donors, FCDO and SIDA, while building investor relationships for our returnable capital vehicle, GIF Growth, including Global Affairs Canada and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

We help deliver outcomes that support all 17 SDGs, notably:



GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND STRATEGY 2025 - 2030

OUR VISION

A future where scalable, sustainable innovation improves the lives of underserved people and communities.

OUR MISSION

Enabling innovations to achieve impact at scale, whilst shaping the broader ecosystem through insight, learning and having others build on GIF's investments.

OUR PRIORITIES

- 1 Climate resilience: Scaling-up locally-led solutions that deliver triple dividend benefits to climate-vulnerable people, investing in adaptation and resilience innovations.
- 2 Inclusive economic opportunities: investing in innovations that improve livelihoods, increase access to fair markets and financial services, and build capabilities.

OUR AMBITION

We aim to reach at least 300 million people by 2030. To do so, we will:

- Be a scale enabler for test and transition stage innovations, nurturing innovators with a sustainable model to attract longer-term, larger-ticket funding for scale,
- Influence the ecosystem, sharing GIF's successes in scaling impactful innovations by capturing and disseminating insight that informs the field of impact investing,
- Shift our focus to the private sector and the catalytic role GIF can play in enabling scale for enterprises and building sustainable business models.



OUR RESOURCES

GIF aims to raise US\$250m by 2030 to allocate across a balanced portfolio:

- 70% of our efforts will be dedicated to direct investment in climate and inclusive economic opportunity innovations,
- 15% to market building efforts and addressing systemic barriers, working to remove policy and market bottlenecks,
- 15% to learning and influencing. This will involve generating and sharing evidence on what works to influence policymakers.

This will expand GIF's learning and influence by strengthening our partnerships and sector collaborations, broadening our impact measurement frameworks, and investing in learning and knowledge generation.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

By 2030, we aim to have reached over 300 million people with transformative improvements to their lives. The GIF's investment model and strategy will support:

- Thriving, innovative social enterprises in LMICs,
- Robust evidence of the impact we have on people's lives,
- Capital mobilisation for ventures ready to scale,
- Sector-wide action initiated from our insights.

WE WELCOME FUNDING, LEARNING AND COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO REALISE THIS VISION.
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