

# Our Grantmaking Model



## What We Fund

EMpower facilitates transformation in emerging market countries by funding local organisations that serve and support marginalised young people. We provide flexible grants to these organisations, our grantee partners, to enable them to implement innovative, quality programmes for young people.



## Who We Fund

We partner with local organisations that promote the inclusion of young people as equal partners for change, especially girls and other young people furthest away from and excluded from power and decision-making. Our grantee partners are committed to gender equality and value and foster collaborative learning.



## Where We Fund

We support approximately 100 organisations in 15 countries around the world.



## Our Portfolios

EMpower has two categories of organisations in its grantmaking portfolio: Circle and Mid-Tier. **The Circle Portfolio** is made up of smaller organisations that are led by individuals with lived experience in the communities they serve. **The Mid-Tier** is made up of larger organisations.

### Circle Portfolio

We recognize the intersectional nature of social exclusion, and how different aspects of a person's identity can influence power, advantage, and discrimination. With the Circle Portfolio, we aim to increase funding for local organisations with lived experience leadership.

An organisation with lived experience leadership is led by an individual who is of a racial, ethnic, religious, or tribal minority; indigenous; LGBTQI+; living with a disability; and/or a young person or girl.

We are building a new pipeline and ecosystem of local organisations who will be eligible for EMpower (or other philanthropic) funding.

**\$35–79k**

Eligible groups will have an organisational annual budget of **US\$35,000–US\$79,000**.

**1–2 years**

Grant sizes can be up to **50%** of the organisation's **annual budget** and grants can be **1 or 2 years** in duration.

**\$10–\$39k**

Grant size range **~US\$10,000–US\$39,000** per year.

**50% flexible**

The focus of these grants will be specific programme support with **up to 50% flexible funding\***

### Mid-Tier Portfolio

**\$80k–3.75m**

Organisations with budgets of **~US\$80k– US\$3.75m** can be considered for funding.

**up to 33%**

Grant size can be **up to 33%** of the organisation's budget.

**\$40–\$100k**

Grant size range **~US\$40k–US\$100k** per year.

Within this Portfolio, there are three phases that grantee partners can move through during their funding relationship with EMpower.



#### PHASE I FLEXIBLE PROGRAMME SUPPORT

- All organisations new to EMpower start out in this phase.
- This phase brings a focus on specific programme support, with **up to 50% flexible funding**.
- The grants can be single or multi-year.
- Organisations report on their programmatic and flexible funding results and learning (indicators to be determined by grant focus).

up to **50% flexible funding\***



#### PHASE II FLEXIBLE CORE SUPPORT

- Strong performing Phase I grantee can move to Phase II based on their Programme Officer's assessment.
- Here we focus on specific programme support and/or organisational strengthening.
- Grants are larger than in Phase I (up to 20% increase in grant size from Phase I, EMpower budget allowing). These grants can receive **up to 75% flexible funding**.
- All grants in this phase are multi-year grants.
- Organisations report on their programmatic and flexible funding results and learning (indicators to be determined by grant focus).

up to **75% flexible funding\***



#### PHASE III SUNSET CORE SUPPORT

- Final, large grant for our tenth year of support; we focus on transition to end of funding.
- Funding can support the organisation's strengthening, future sustainability, or specific programmes—as the grantee partner desires.
- Grant size can be up to 50% bigger than the previous grant. Maximum flexibility—**up to 100% flexible funding**.
- Organisations report on programmatic and/or flexible funding results and learning (indicators to be determined by grant focus).

up to **100% flexible funding\***

## Duration of Grants and EMpower Support

We are now offering multi-year grants (up to 2 years) in all grant phases, including in the Circle Portfolio and Phase 1 of the Mid-Tier Portfolio.

EMpower will fund an organisation for a maximum of 10 years.

\*Flexible funding covers institutional needs that are negotiated and agreed upon with the EMpower Programme Officer. Examples include: monitoring, learning, and evaluation; organisational strengthening; financial sustainability (fundraising, income generation, reserves, etc.).