

Knowledge Equity Fund



WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

What is the Equity Fund?

The Equity Fund is a US\$4.5M fund created by the Wikimedia Foundation to support external organizations whose work increases the availability of free knowledge by counteracting structural inequalities relating to **racial equity** around the world.

- Knowledge equity is core to our movement and strategic direction.
- Barriers to knowledge equity may be rooted in systems of racial oppression
- Focused fund to invest in orgs that address racial bias and inequality

The Equity Fund Committee

- Tony Sebro, Legal Affairs
- Jorge Vargas, Partnerships
- Kassia Echavarri-Queen, Comm Resources
- Nadee Gunasena, Communications
- Felix Nartey, Community Programs
- *Kelly Foster, Community Representative*
- *Emna Mizouni, Community Representative*
- Advisors: Lisa Gruwell, Janeen Uzzell



Fund Scope

- Grantees who advance **free knowledge and racial equity**
- Inspired by US events, but **global focus** befitting the movement's footprint
- **Theory of change:** grantees with clear methodologies for impact, rather than requiring them to conform to the committee's metrics
- **“No start ups”:** established organizations with track records of impact
- **Sustainability:** grantees should have a financial model that does not depend solely on a pilot grant program
- Grantee selection process **still evolving**

Funding Focus Areas

- **Supporting scholarship & advocacy focused on free knowledge and racial equity**
- **Expanding reliable media sources that cover people from diverse backgrounds**
- Investing in non-traditional records of knowledge (i.e. oral histories)
- Addressing unequal internet access
- Improving digital literacy skills that impede access to knowledge

Thank you



WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION