

Mapping of Strategies

Overview Alternative Resourcing (compiled by Claudia Bollwinkel at Dreilinden)

What we have seen activists do

1. Income generating through informal businesses
2. Social enterprises
3. Cooperatives (women headed households cooperative. burial societies)
4. Gift economy, Communal Care and mutual aid
5. Crowd funding (self funded conference, support during the pandemic, platforms)
6. Local Fundraising (collecting donations)
7. Membership fees
8. Sales Fundraising (donations from sales of merchandise, Jumble sales)
9. Cooperative Economic Activities (feminist tours through Tbilisi or selling newsletters, combining voice and income generating)
10. Saving and Loan Circles, Cooperative banks
11. Diaspora Giving (sending money home, crisis response)
12. Property ownership (including income generation from real estate)
13. Sharing Space (space for meetings, emergency housing)
14. Cooperate with local businesses
15. Cost-Sharing and fiscal sponsorship
16. Secure funding from local and national government programs

Examples

2)

<https://www.ilga-europe.org/video/real-stories-of-social-entrepreneurship-in-action/>

3)

<https://our-resource.com/>

<https://thousandcurrents.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Resourcing-your-community-AiD-Toolkit.pdf>

4)

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/usaid-cuts-trump-east-african-queer-collectives-lgbtq-kenya-uganda-aha/>

<https://www.awid.org/news-and-analysis/autonomous-resourcing-engine-room-feminist-work-amid-global-pandemic>

6)

<https://www.openglobalrights.org/building-communities-to-boost-local-fundraising/>

9)

<https://www.openglobalrights.org/what-we-can-learn-from-feminists-who-fund-themselves/>

What we have seen funders do

1. Community Philanthropy (philanthropy owned by communities)
2. Impact Investing
3. Property Purchase grants (enable ownership of land and properties)
4. Spend Out (give back, foster community control of capital)
5. Endowment grants (build financial long term independence)
6. Long term flexible grants
7. Gifts with no strings attached
8. Strengthen autonomous financing models
9. Seed and Strengthen self-led intermediaries
10. Sustainable exits / tie offs
11. Pooled Funds
12. Resourcing Solidarity Economy

Examples:

2)

<https://nonprofitquarterly.org/beyond-grant-capital-what-the-buen-vivir-fund-experience-teaches-us/>

3)

<https://nonprofitquarterly.org/planning-for-success-why-asset-transfers-to-communities-matter/>

4)

<https://comptonfoundation.org/the-end/>

6)

Sustain Fund Black Feminist Fund <https://blackfeministfund.org/grantmaking/>

7)

Mackenzie Scott <https://yieldgiving.com/>

<https://cep.org/news/press-releases/research-shows-mackenzie-scotts-large-unrestricted-gifts-create-sustained-impact-for-nonprofits-and-communities/>

8)

<https://www.alliancemagazine.org/blog/re-centering-philanthropic-narratives-the-importance-of-securing-independent-and-autonomous-resourcing/>

11)

<https://www.theglobalresiliencefund.org/>

12)

<https://www.goodancestormovement.com/resourcing-the-solidarity-economy>

Strategic Questions for Movements

(by Quime Williams and Yasmine Zeid, created for the session on autonomous resourcing at the Crisis & Care Convening, Brazil May 2025)

- What are the examples of models for alternative resourcing that you have experimented with or witnessed?
- Who is involved in holding this in your ecosystem? / What partnerships support this type of model?
- What conditions need to be in place to make this model work?
- What kind of capacity do you need to hold this? / What infrastructure is needed to support this?
- What would need to happen to support this/alternative strategies as both activists and donors?
- What would it look like for donors to be enablers/supportive of these ideas?

Strategic Questions for the Feminist Funding Ecosystem

(Yifat Susskind)

- What can the global women's movement learn from movements past and present that have financed significant work outside of philanthropy? Could we adapt modalities of

self-funded movements, like Labor, mission-aligned income-generation, or fee-for-service work?

- How can time-tested, locally-rooted models of women's resource mobilization, such as African women's revolving loan funds or models of mutual aid, be adapted and scaled to support feminist work?
- What needs to change within the feminist funding ecosystem to account for contracting resources? How can these changes be undertaken while avoiding destructive competition over scarce funding and maximizing protections for the work of the sector and the people who rely on it? Is there potential for collective approaches, such as pooled investment funds or shared service centers, to support work?