



## The Global Majority Fund

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. What do you mean by Communities Experiencing Racial Inequality? What about other inequalities?**

When we talk about communities experiencing racial inequality, we refer to individuals and communities which have been historically defined as 'Black, Asian and minority ethnic' (BAME), a term widely used by government departments, public bodies, the media and others when referring to ethnic minority groups. The acronym 'BAME' is problematic as it strips away individual identities and assumes, we all share the same experiences, challenges and barriers to representation.

This specific fund was launched to address the inequalities faced by different ethnic groups, resulting from persistent racial inequality in education, health, the workplace, the criminal justice system and more, which have been exacerbated during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Comic Relief is committed to a Just World Free from Poverty and this work focuses on the most vulnerable and those experiencing inequalities across four strategic pillars:

- Gender Justice
- Global mental health matters
- Children Survive and Thrive
- Safe Place to Be

You can find out more about our social change strategy [HERE](#).

**Q. My organisation works with communities experiencing racial inequality, but we are not led by representatives from these communities – can we still apply?**

Unfortunately, no. We understand that community representation at senior management level is only a partial indicator. However, it is an important indicator to demonstrate the understanding and commitment to having representation of these ethnic groups at senior level where they are leading on decisions, programming and how investments are made in their communities. Communities experiencing racial equality need to be included in these conversations and have a seat at the table when it comes to these senior level discussions to ensure meaningful change is achieved and sustained.

**Q. My organisation currently receives Comic Relief funding, can we still apply?**

Yes absolutely. If you meet the eligibility criteria for The Global Majority Fund, we would welcome an application from you.

**Q. My organisation only works with one ethnic group, can we still apply?**

Yes absolutely. We do not expect you to work with every ethnic group. We understand that organisations may work with only one specific group e.g. the Indian community, the Congolese community or the Traveller community and this is fine. We also recognise you may also work thematically e.g. Indian survivors of gender-based violence or around mental health in the East African community. This is fine too! We want you to apply to support your existing work, not the expansion of this work into new communities.



**Q. My organisation has an income of less than £75,000, can we still apply?**

Unfortunately, no. We aim to fund only a portion of your organisation's total income in any one year. For each year of your proposal's budget, you cannot request more than 40% of your organisation's latest annual income. At the point of your application, we will use your organisation's most recent annual accounts submitted to the relevant authorities, and the average annual amount of funding that you have requested from us.

**Q. What is the difference between annual and management accounts?**

By annual accounts, we mean your organisation's accounts for the most recent financial year. By management accounts, we mean your latest income and expenditure report showing your organisation's current financial position (as annual accounts can often be out of date at the point of submitting a proposal). They are usually tracked against your planned budget for the current financial year. The management accounts should not be more than 3 months out of date.

**Q. Can we apply for funding for work that is already taking place?**

Yes absolutely. However, if you are successful, funding cannot be used retrospectively. It must be used for future work, not programming that has already been undertaken.

**Q. Why are management costs capped at 10%?**

Comic Relief is delivering this fund in partnership with the [National Emergencies Trust](#) and [The Clothworkers Foundation](#) to launch The Global Majority Fund. Each partner has their own conditions of funding and 10% was the agreed limit for management costs to ensure most of the funds reach organisations that need them most at this difficult time. We recognise that the trust cost of grant making does exceed 10% and in addition to the management costs, we have built in an 'organisational development' line, which allows organisations to apply for additional investment (up to 10%) into their own systems and process to strengthen their organisation.

**Q. My organisation is in the process of becoming legally constituted, can we still apply?**

Comic Relief uses the last set of annual accounts submitted to the relevant authority as a basis for whether an organisation is eligible or not. So unfortunately, if you have no annual accounts you are ineligible to apply.

**Q. My organisation has no previous experience of grant making, can we still apply?**

Due to the nature of the funding, we require organisations to move at pace to launch a funding call of their own and distribute funding on our behalf. This will require organisations to have prior experience and an understanding of systems and processes that need to be in place to successfully to this. So unfortunately, if you have no experience of grant making, you would be ineligible to apply.

**Q. We want to submit a partnership bid but the partner is not constituted, can we still apply?**

A 'partner' in this context means another entity you would be working closely with to deliver the project and they would usually also be responsible for managing part of the budget. If your partner is not constituted, they could still work in partnership with you but would be unable to manage the overall budget. Constituted organisations are legally required to have adequate financial systems in place to manage finances whereas for organisations that are not constituted, there is no standardised system to follow. There are other ways to work together such as applying as the lead organisation and contracting the organisation you wish to partner with as a consultant to support the delivery of your



work. Whilst they would not technically be defined as a 'partner' for Comic Relief, you would still be working in partnership to deliver the work.

**Q. My organisation works with community groups working with minoritised European groups such as Roma, Traveller and Gypsy communities, can we still apply for funding?**

Yes, you would absolutely be eligible to apply to work with these ethnic groups.

**Q. My organisation works with community groups working with migrants, undocumented groups, people seeking asylum and refugees; can we still apply for funding?**

Yes – absolutely. We know these groups are particularly vulnerable during this difficult time and are actively encouraging organisations to apply to work with communities who are experiencing increase vulnerability and hardship during this difficult time.

**Q. Will Comic Relief provide us with guidelines or conditions we need to fulfil when designing our funding call?**

Comic Relief believes in the principals of trust-based funding, which means trusting in the expertise and experience of intermediary technical partners to make investments on our behalf. Therefore, we are seeking organisations who have prior experience of grant making. We know that the 'one size fits all' approach doesn't work when making grants – particularly when making grants to smaller community organisations. Therefore, we trust in your ability to design and develop a funding call that will speak to and be accessible to the communities you work with. Your lead contact at Comic Relief will be there to support you on this journey, acting as a critical friend, providing helpful feedback, proof reading, guidance...etc. But ultimately this is your funding call, you will know best what works and what doesn't, and we trust your judgment. (But if you need a helping hand, we are only an email or phone call away).

**Q. When does the funding begin and when does it need to be spent by?**

Decisions will be made and communicated to all applicants by 29 January 2021. Funding should reach successful technical partners within 4 weeks of this date. Once the funds are received by intermediary technical partners, they will be responsible for launching their own funding call to distribute the funding. This usually takes anywhere between 1-3 months. Funds would need to reach community organisations by the beginning of March 2021 (exact date TBC) and spent in full by community organisations by 31 August 2021. Final reports to be received by Comic Relief one month after this date. All dates will be clearly communicated with successful applicants in contracts.

**Q. If I'm unsuccessful, will you provide me with feedback?**

Yes – absolutely. For this funding call, we are absolutely committed to providing unsuccessful applicants with personalised feedback on their application. We know this is an important process - particularly for organisations who have never received feedback before or are applying to Comic Relief for the first time.