

foundation
BOTNAR



OVERVIEW:

FONDATION BOTNAR STRATEGY 2020-2022



Background

Fondation Botnar was established in 2003 with a primary focus on furthering the Botnar family legacy through grants funding of diverse projects. This was solely managed by the members of the foundation board. In 2017, the board appointed a CEO with the purpose of setting up a management team and defining a strategic focus.

The aim was to move the foundation away from conventional grantmaking to focus on developing new enterprise-based models that help deliver lasting impact that is both sustainable and scalable.

In 2017, the newly created Fondation Botnar Management Office, together with the board, developed the 2018-2020 grantmaking strategy which was approved in February 2018. After a period of implementation, reflection, and evaluation, we have now adopted the 2020-2022 strategy, which presents the foundation's ambition over the next three years.

This strategy supports our vision of a world in which young people's dignity and rights are respected, and where they can experience wellbeing and contribute to the sustainable development of society. Our goal is to contribute to the transformation of urban environments to promote the sustainable development and wellbeing of young people.

Where do we want to be by 2022?

Together with existing and new partners, we aim to deepen our understanding of, and expand our investments in, transforming urban environments to nurture the wellbeing of young people (aged 10 to 24-years)¹. Throughout this entire process we will be taking a relational approach to wellbeing.

At the same time, as we increase our country and city presence over the next three years, we will ensure our national, regional, and global engagement and grant investments are increasingly shaped by local lived experiences. This will assist in our overall strategic alignment and in rooting our work at all levels in the day-to-day experiences of young people in local contexts.

Our strategic journey "from grantmaker to change maker" will continue to evolve as we collectively learn and reflect on both our successes and challenges in becoming a responsive philanthropic foundation partner.

We aim that all grants across all our key portfolios and supporting activities, contribute to a world in which young people have the right and the means to experience wellbeing (see Strategy Map and Strategic Objectives and Enabling Actions).

A relational approach to young people

Our primary focus is the population of young people aged 10 to 24 years old. There are more people in this age group than at any other time in human history. Among the world population of approximately 7.3 billion, there are about 1.8 billion people aged 10 to 24 years old.

A relational approach to wellbeing goes beyond the individual to focus on the interactions within and between people. These interactions are in turn shaped by and shape people's social and ecological contexts. A focus on relational wellbeing contributes towards the holistic development of young people, however we also recognise that there are critical risks and opportunities in early childhood that have implications for the realisation of young people's rights.

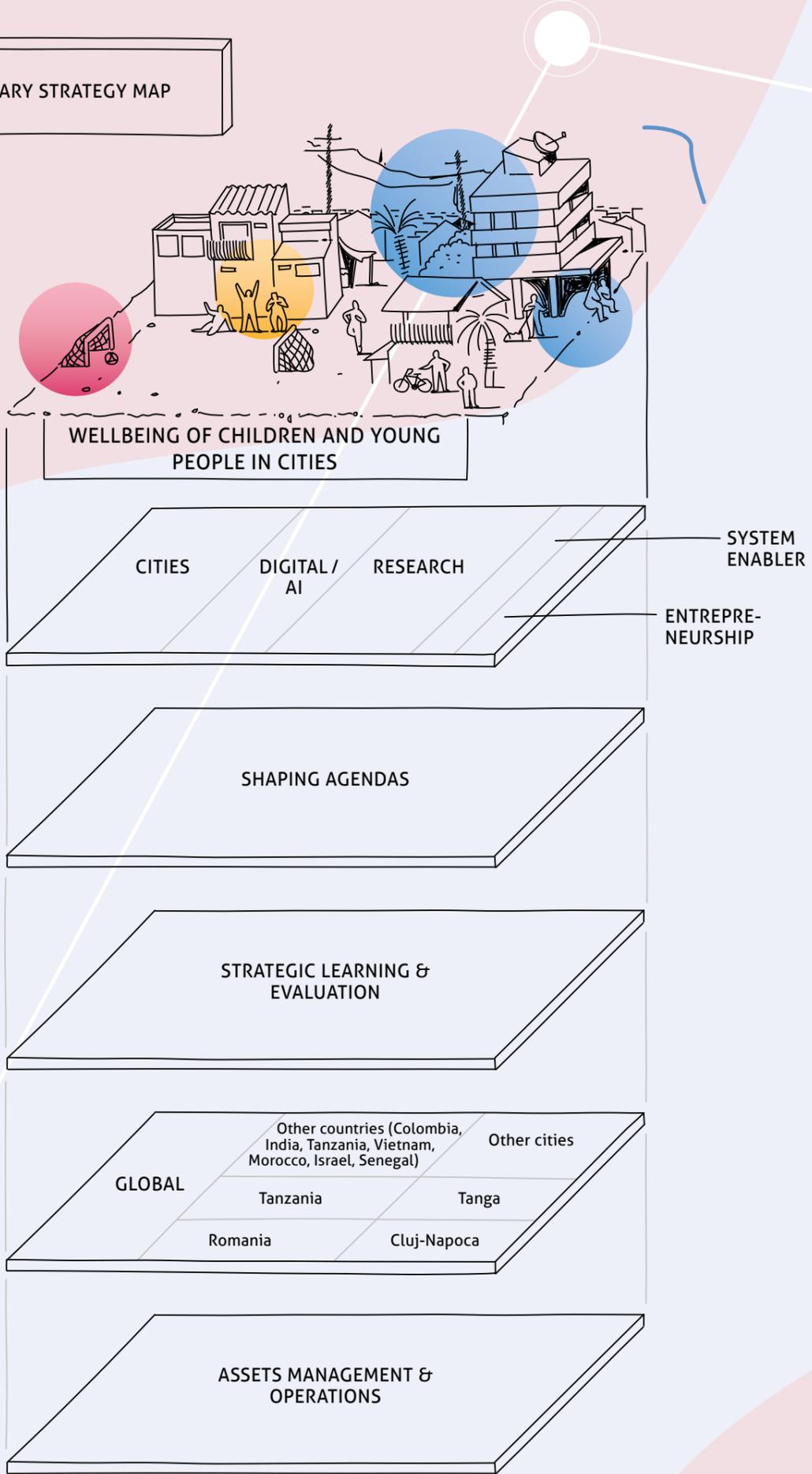
This means that while the foundation's priority interventions will focus on young people aged 10 to 24 years, we will address the first decade of life as appropriate to ensure an integrated programming approach in our collaborations and partnerships.

1

We use the term 'young people' instead of the term children and adolescents, in line with UNICEF's Youth and Adolescents Strategic Framework terminology. The age range 10-24 years corresponds to the expanded definition of adolescence adopted by the 2016 Lancet Commission on Adolescents Health and Wellbeing.



SUMMARY STRATEGY MAP



Strategic objectives and enabling actions

Cities fit for young people Working with intermediary cities to influence and support their systemic transformation into smart urban areas fit for young people.

Artificial intelligence (AI) and digital transformation Focusing on human-centred solutions and systems for improved wellbeing which are integrated with AI, digital data, tools and platforms and that these are evidenced, launched, tested and ready for scale-up in focus geographies.

Research for young people’s wellbeing Supporting long-term outcomes and impact by providing the scientific basis across the foundations programmatic work.

System enabler Strengthening the capacity of single individuals (e.g. young people; key change agents), teams who drive change or specific organisations to accelerate progress for improved wellbeing.

Entrepreneurship and innovative finance Introducing market-based interventions by building a portfolio of venture philanthropy investments in focus countries, in addition to existing activities in the OurCity initiative and other individual projects.

Strategic learning and evaluation Understanding how we are progressing in relation to this strategy, while at the same time using evidence to inform further refinement and refreshment of the strategy.

Shaping agendas Influencing, shaping and transforming the global policy agenda to provide an enabling environment for scaling up solutions, including digital innovations, and strengthen access to key decision-makers to achieve our goals.



Principles and approaches

The following principles and approaches guide our organisational operations, partnering, funding, advocacy and related engagements:

Systemic and sustainable transformation

In the spirit of our founding family, innovation and entrepreneurship are at the heart of what we do. We strive that our investments are sustainable, and through the transformation we catalyse, we anticipate that new social structures will emerge to embed and sustain development. Further, with impact in mind, we support approaches that are scalable.

Relational wellbeing

A relational approach, which sees wellbeing as arising from the shared experiences of living in community with others, is foundational to our work. Relational wellbeing is generated through interactions within and between people, which are in turn shaped by and shape their social and ecological contexts.

Young people's rights, gender equality and inclusiveness

The human rights of children and young people are non-negotiable. Human rights instruments such as the Convention of the Rights of the Child underpin our approach to achieving our objectives. The realisation of human rights, gender equality and inclusiveness are especially critical within the digital age. We will work to address gaps toward achieving equity, gender equality and equal opportunities in our spheres of influence and beyond. In practice this also means ensuring global access to digital technologies to the best extent possible. We aim to be inclusive of the most vulnerable young people in society and strive toward enhancing their wellbeing. We take a holistic view of the user/human experience and put people at the centre of our collective efforts across all areas of work.

Participation

Recognising the evolving capacities of young people, we endeavour to create opportunities and platforms for young people to share power and responsibility for shaping their wellbeing. We seek to include the voices of young people in the planning, design, and implementation of relevant global and national programs and policies.

Catalyst for change

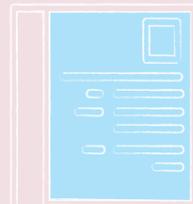
To realise the scale of our aspirations within the limits of the foundation's resources, we strive to play an important role as catalyser, convener and facilitator. We seek to initiate multi-sector and multi-stakeholder efforts through active engagement and financial investments. We aim to drive dialogue through advocacy and build capacity for systemic transformation to further embed, scale and sustain the efforts catalysed by the foundation.

Science based

We do not compromise on science and strive for a multi-disciplinary science-based approach across all facets of the innovation to implementation cycle.

Partnerships

- * We understand the value chain along which innovation and impact are realised and strive to partner with those that similarly operate in a scientific, evidence-based manner.
- * We bring mutual respect to the partners we choose and the investments we make through equal partnering. This includes adhering to the Research Fairness Initiative, as relevant.
- * We partner with organisations or individuals that are locally anchored and have a legitimate understanding of the context in which they work.
- * We support, and seek to partner with, individuals and/or teams who drive change within their ecosystems. If a project does not have at least one key person driving the endeavour, we do not back it.
- * We support the establishment of consortia, or similar approaches to ensure inclusiveness and sustainability.
- * We work with partners that are viable, appreciating that there may be variable program quality standards. We understand our responsibility to build the capacity of local partners to ensure sustained success. We are also aware of the potential for dependency and strive to minimise as far as possible. We also acknowledge capacity building is dynamic and we seek to learn from our partners.
- * We strive to adhere to the five Principles of Partnership in development (see www.globalhumanitarianplatform.org), notably equity, transparency, results focus, responsibility and complementarity.





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