



ifg

Zakat Impact Fund

Strategic donations with leveraged
long term returns for the community

We are pleased to share with you IFG's Zakat Impact Fund. We are focused on maximum impact, long term poverty alleviation, and the overall strengthening of God's cause. We do not charge any fees managing this fund.

1 Zakat Eligible

The Fund is a discretionary zakat fund verified by Sh Akram Nadwi as zakat-eligible ¹.

2 Economic Empowerment

1/3 of the Fund will be deployed into economic empowerment: helping zakat-eligible individuals attend training and upskilling to get them started on a career or help them set up their own businesses to permanently climb out of poverty.

3 High Impact Strategic Donations

2/3 of the Fund will be deployed into high-impact strategic donations focused on actively working with and scaling up strategic charities. The recipients of these donations will change from time to time but they will be chosen based on the following principles:

- Is this a donation that will create a leveraged return? (e.g. a political empowerment donation can unlock significantly greater returns based on what is successfully lobbied for, or a “catalyst role” that unlocks potential from hundreds of others)
- Is this an area that IFG can add specific expertise and guidance to?
- Is this an area that is otherwise neglected by other donors?

¹ Please note that if you follow certain narrower readings of zakat eligibility, you would regard only 1/3 of this Fund to be zakat eligible, so please adjust your donations accordingly.

We want to build a better world with your support. We have three goals:

1 A Self-Sustaining Zakat Pot

We want to go further than giving hand-outs (necessary though they are). We don't want to just give the fish, we don't even want to teach the man to fish - we'll buy the man the rod. Eventually some of the individuals we support will succeed and themselves become donors.

2 Ummah Strength

Global events have shown us starkly the Muslim weakness today. But it does not have to be this way. With the right legal, political, and intellectual moves, God's cause can be strengthened so that the Muslim position holds weight for everyone.

3 Affinity to Islam and Muslims

We will help usher in a day when Islam is honoured how it should be, and Muslims are looked up to with respect. When non-Muslims are warm to the promise of our great faith. When everyday folk find the light of Islam in their thousands.

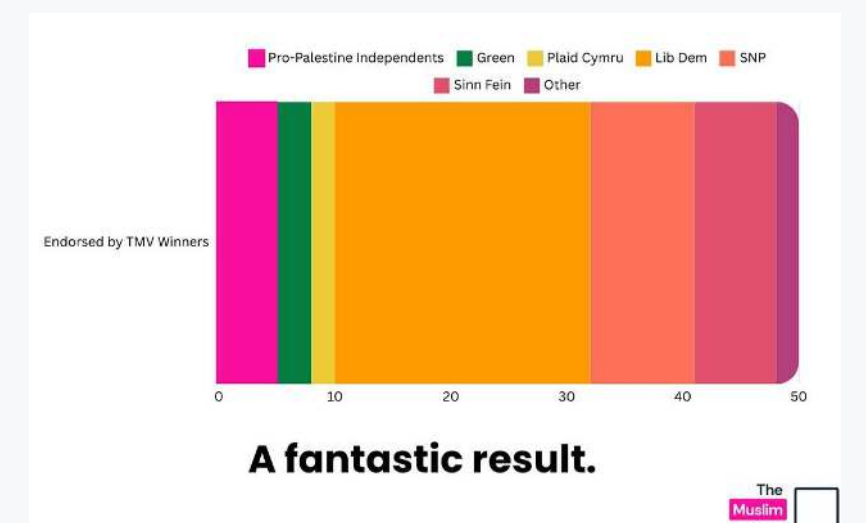
Key results from the fund's first year:

1 A Self-Sustaining Zakat Pot

- NZF: Established a programme to support vocational training, employability initiatives, and economic inclusion for 72 vulnerable Muslim individuals in the UK.
- FIG: Increased funding from 4 to 16 social ventures, allowing them to scale their operations and impact. Grew total funding from £386k to £1.2m

2 Ummah Strength

- Islamophobia Response Unit (IRU): Assisted 400+ victims of Islamophobia with legal aid, securing key settlements (£25k+ and advancing policy discussions with the Policy, NHS, Barnardos and more).
- The Muslim Vote (TMV): Mobilised 600,000 Muslim voters, securing the election of five independent MPs, an unprecedented milestone.
- 5Pillars: Mobilised Muslim voters with election coverage and interviews.
- Centre for Media Monitoring: detailed report on media bias in coverage of middle east conflict.



3 Affinity to Islam and Muslims

- Equi: Delivered 3 key landmark reports to policymakers on economic contribution of Muslims, loneliness and the role of Muslims in UK arts and culture. This is helping to inform government decisions with research and data for the first time.



Prof. Javed Khan OBE outside Downing Street presenting Equi's research to policymakers

These are the unprecedented results that impactful **strategic giving** can achieve in 1 year with just £250,000.

You - our donors did this.

£250,000 is just ~ 0.02% of total UK Muslim donations in 2024.

Help us now **accelerate** these results this year.

Reflections From Last Year

- Last year, the fund gave direct grants to small organisations enabling quick, tangible results. Their expertise and focus meant that donations made an immediate difference on the ground.
- Grassroots initiatives gained momentum, helping to shape policy discussions on Islamophobia, secured legal victories in discrimination cases, and supported seminal electoral wins —elevating Muslim voices at both local and national levels.
- Needy Muslims received practical help through financial literacy programmes, legal aid, and social mobility schemes, enabling immediate improvements in their daily lives.

Self-Critical Reflections & Plan Going Forward

- We are broadly happy with our chosen organisations but felt we couldn't provide them with as much of the hands-on support we typically provide our investments. We felt we needed further charitable expertise for that hands-on support.
- To address that, this year we have partnered with Funders in Good (FIG), a faith-based venture philanthropy fund. They are our trusted lieutenant who will help our chosen charities in up-skilling and developing the systems they need to succeed. To use an investment analogy - we are moving away from being a passive tracker fund to an actively managed fund.
- As such, FIG will directly receive 1/3 of the donations to deploy according to their usual grant programmes. In addition they will provide their oversight and up-skilling services to overlook a further 1/3 of our portfolio. The final 1/3 will go as previously to National Zakat Foundation.
- We also were also unable to deploy our allocation for Islamic finance scholarship grants. Accordingly, this year we are going to instead look to rechannel that intent by backing Islamic finance education initiatives instead. Put simply, we will give this money to charitable projects already active today rather than try to find individuals from scratch.

Leveraged donations go further

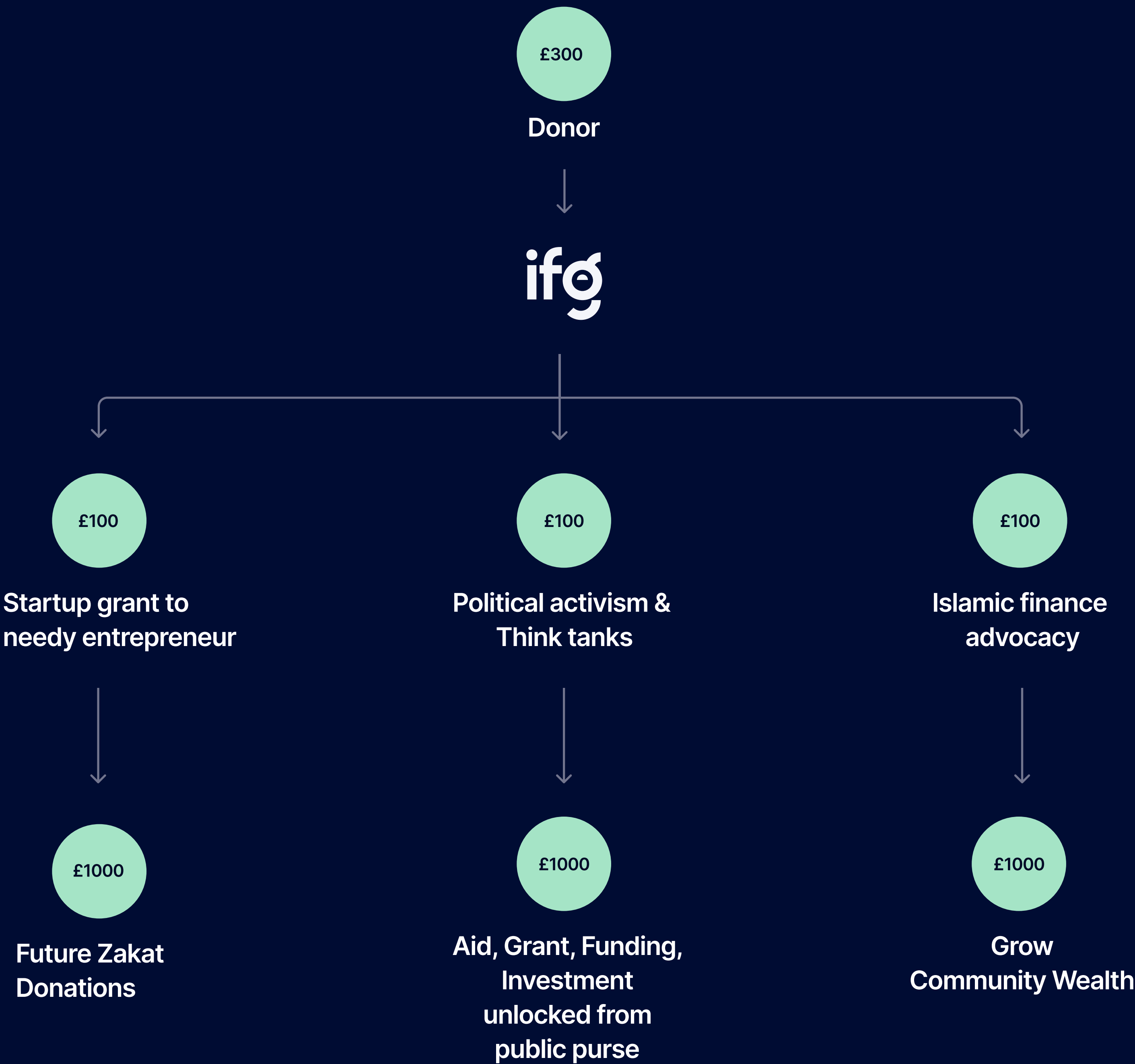
We think zakat on poverty alleviation is incredibly important - but we need to go beyond that as well. When we do this well, we get leveraged returns as a community.

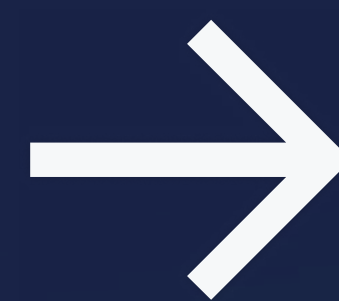
Normal donation

(& we still need a lot of this)



Leveraged Donation





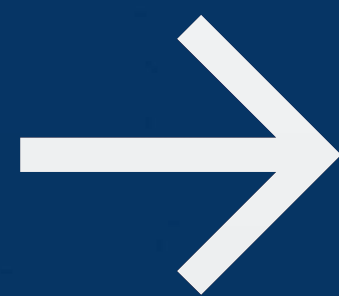
Fund Methodology

Fund Principles

- The Fund will look to back initiatives for the long term. We will try to follow our money over a multi-year timeframe.
- The Fund will look to take advisory positions wherever possible to help provide steer and oversight to the project. It is the intention of the Fund to be an active supporter rather than a passive donor.
- The Fund will initially take no administration fee but anticipates that as the Fund grows over time, it will eventually need to take a small administration fee. We will always be completely transparent about this.
- The Fund will always allocate a portion of its pot towards simple poverty alleviation, and once the Fund grows to over £20m per annum, 25% of the allocation will be to poverty alleviation.

Decision Making Process

- The receiving organisations will be determined by the IFG zakat executive committee comprising Ibrahim Khan and Mohsin Patel and overseen by an advisory committee of experienced charity sector donors.
- These allocations will be revisited every quarter by the committee.
- The Fund will require all recipient organisations to:
 - Submit annual accounts
 - Quarterly updates
 - Attend a bespoke strategy session focused around stress-testing impact and aligning on the theological underpinnings behind our public work.



Sharia Methodology

The fund will always adhere to guidelines set by Shaykh Akram Nadwi on eligible zakat recipients.

Economic Empower Pot

1/3 of the Fund will be focused on economic empowerment for zakat-eligible individuals and as such is accepted by all scholarly traditions as zakat.

Strategic Pot

2/3 of the Fund will avail of all zakat categories, particularly “reconciliation of the hearts”, “in the cause of God”, the poor and the needy.

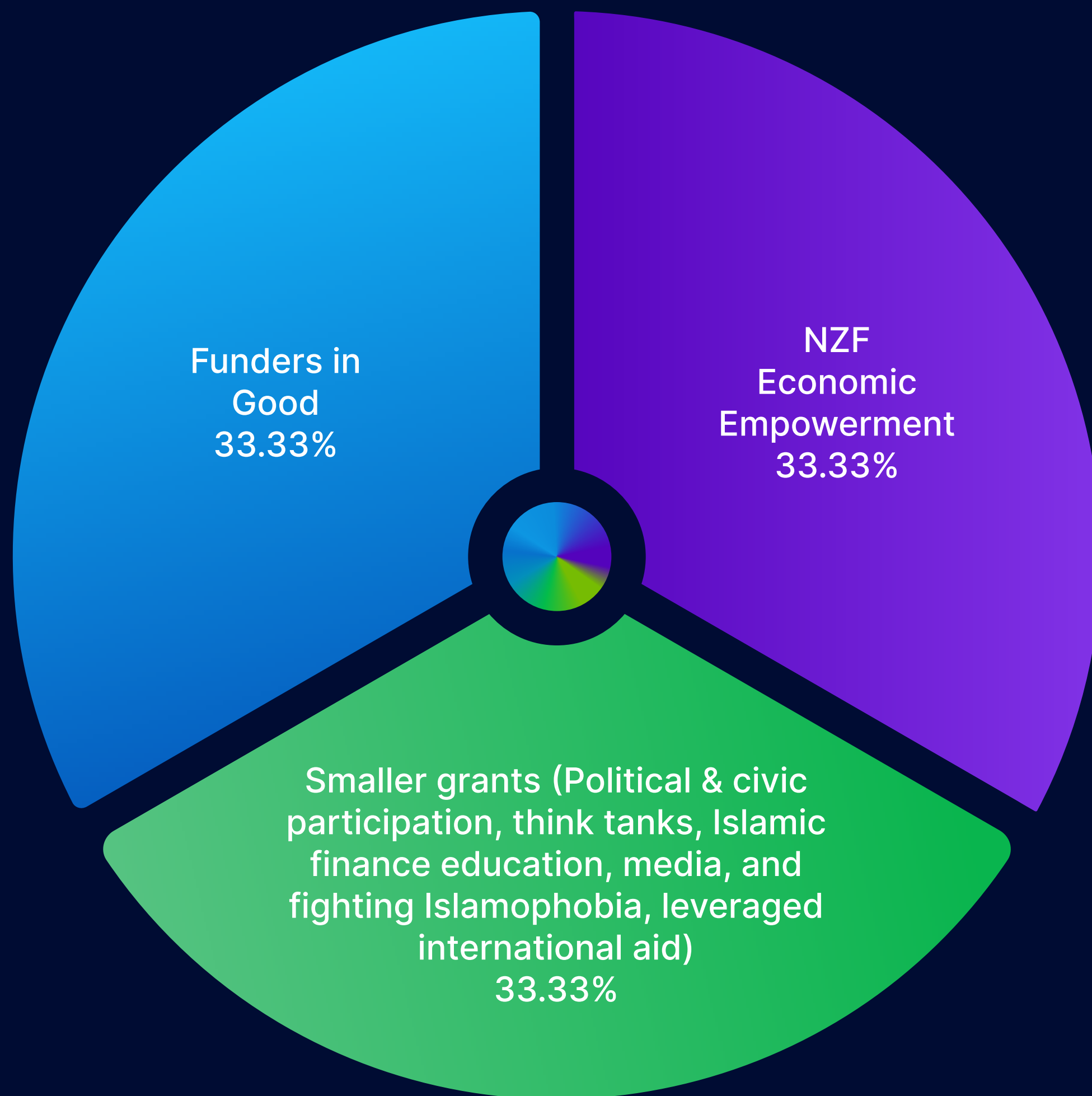
Whilst we anticipate some of the strategic pot will allocated to donations to the poor and needy, for prudence where an individual follows a narrower reading of zakat eligibility they should treat only 1/3 of the Fund as zakat-eligible.

Note: for those who are interested in learning more about the different categories of zakat and the wide variety of views among Islamic scholarship on this, please see:

1. Sh. Yusuf Al Qardawi's excellent Fiqh of Zakat (Volume 2) accessible here: https://monzer.kahf.com/books/english/fiqhalzakah_vol2.pdf
2. <https://muslimmatters.org/2021/07/20/zakat-eligibility-of-islamic-organizations/>
3. https://yaqeeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/FINAL-Zakat-is-not-just-Charity_-Unlocking-the-Transformative-Power-of-Islams-Third-Pillar.pdf



Indicative Allocations & Impact



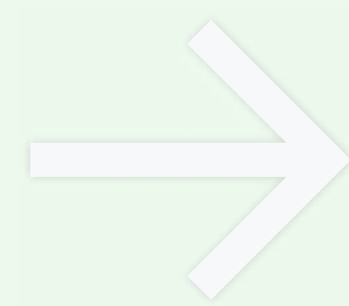
- **NZF Economic Empowerment 33.33%**

- **Funders in Good 33.33%**

- **Smaller grants (Political & civic participation, think tanks, Islamic finance education, media, and fighting Islamophobia, leveraged international aid) 33.33%**

The above is an indicative example of how the Fund will be deployed, though it is a discretionary fund and the committee may decide to make small tweaks to the above as the situation arises - sticking within the rules of the Fund set out earlier.

Recipient	Desired Impact
National Zakat Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct poverty alleviation in the UK.• A community of newly-employed created who would otherwise not have been employed as gainfully.• A small minority of sustainable businesses are created which then flourish and contribute back into the pot.
Funders in Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building a culture and skill set of venture philanthropy in the UK Muslim community and scaling from 4 to 16 social ventures.• Back FIG to identify, fund, upskill and support high impact and strategic charitable projects across the UK.• Continue to develop a strong curriculum of development for emerging NGO leaders.
Smaller Grants (Political & civic participation, public policy, Islamic finance education, media, and fighting Islamophobia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Political: An educated, coordinated and unified Muslim electorate.• Civic participation & Media: A Muslim community much more actively engaged at local civic society level, with quality homegrown media.• Policy: Research that has the ear of the government on issues that move the needle for Muslims.• Islamic finance education: A financially literate and economically engaged Muslim community.• Islamophobia: A well-equipped legal response available for victims of Islamophobia.• Leveraged international aid: funding govt. relations roles at large Islamic charities to help unlock multimillion pound international development funding.• Community infrastructure: funding key civil society institutions serving our community.



funders in good

**Funders in Good: The natural
partner to magnify our donations**

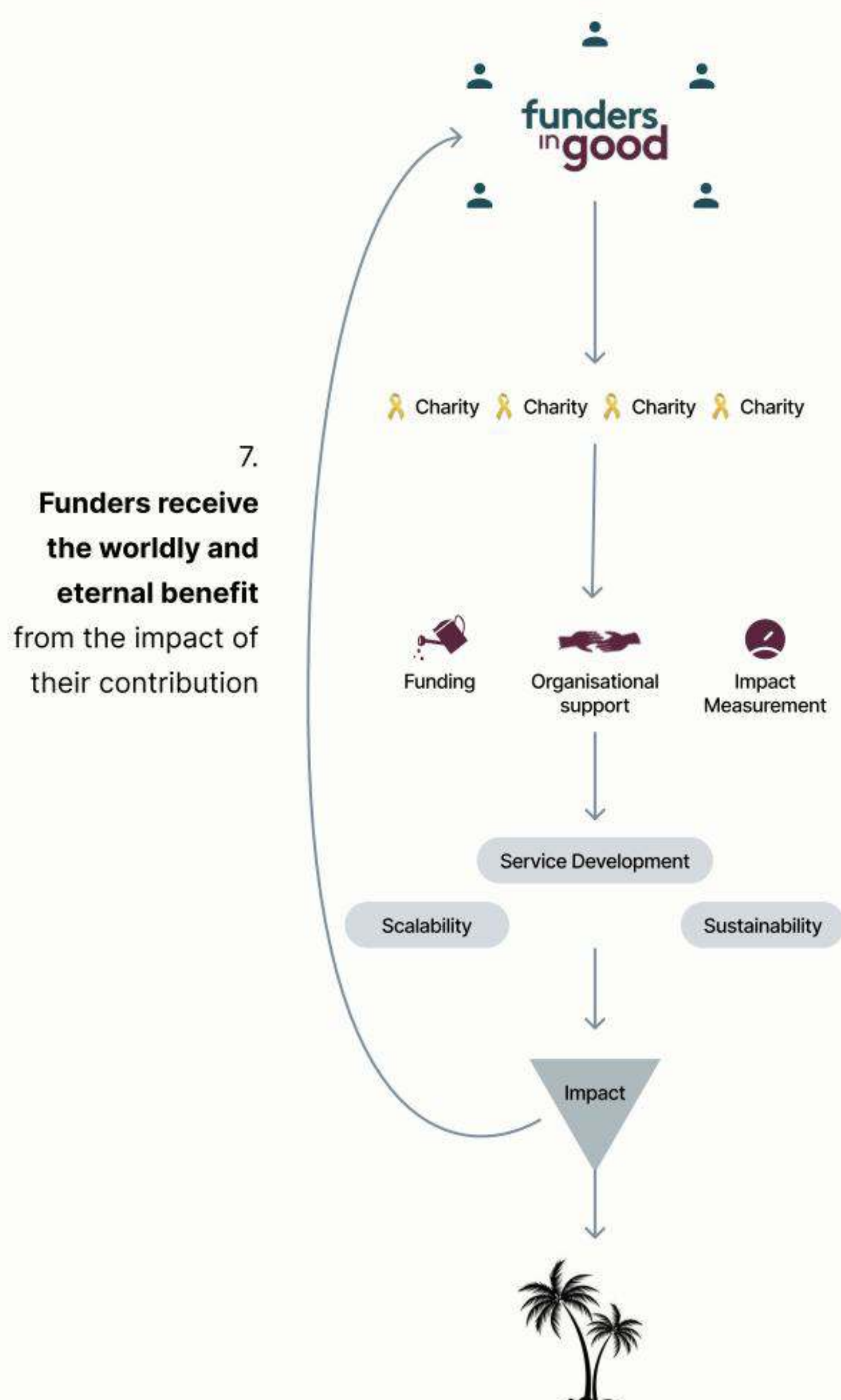
Who are FIG?

- FIG is a faith-based, venture philanthropy fund. Venture philanthropy is a high-engagement and long-term approach to giving that helps organisations maximise their social impact.
- FIG explain their vision as *“a society in which commitment to God is flourishing, underpinned by highly effective social ventures”*.

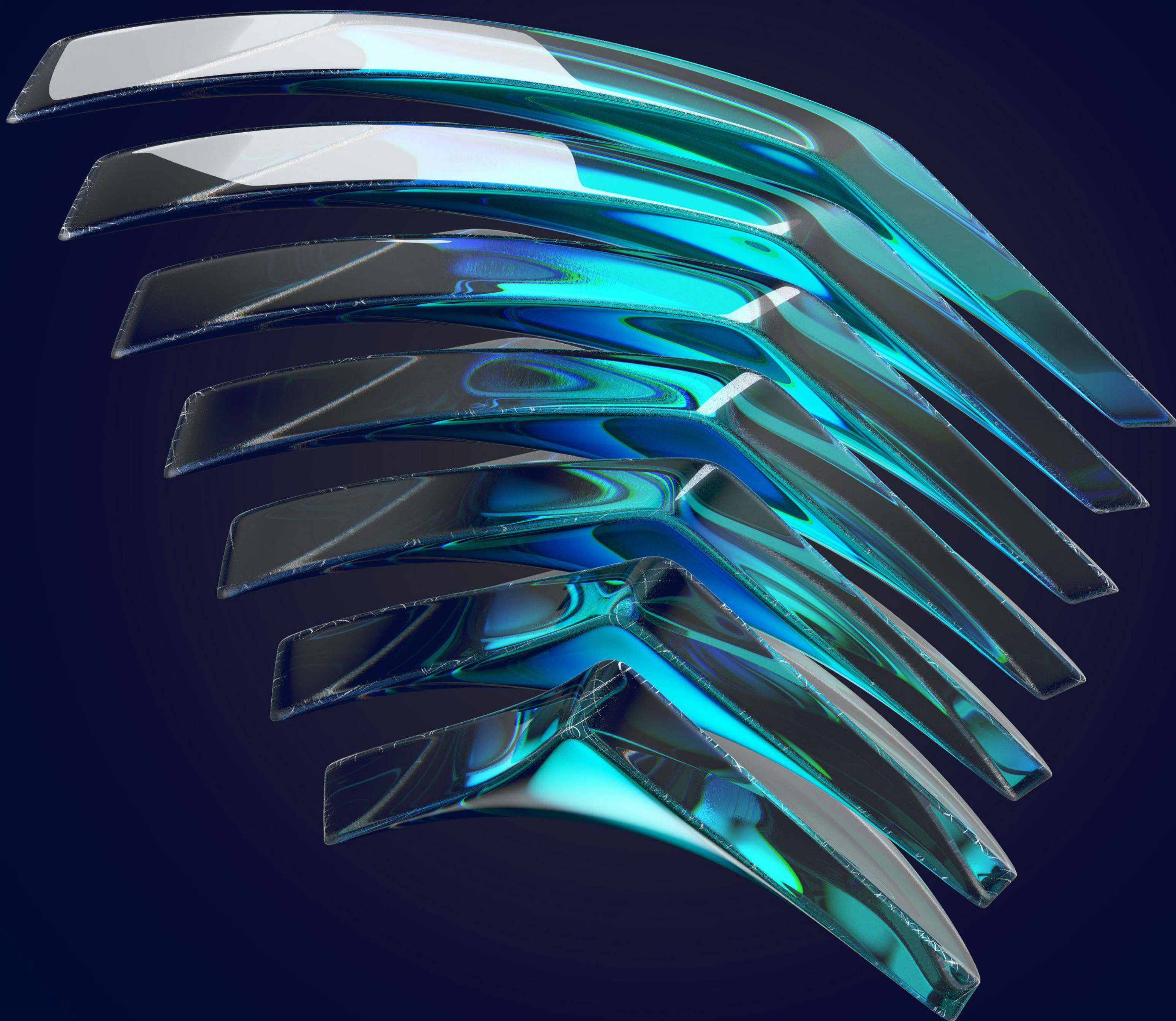
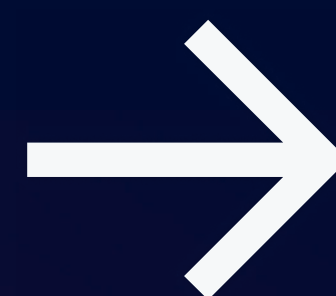
Why are we partnering with them?

- Donations should not be a black box—where money is given and disappears without clarity on its impact. Instead, donations should be more than just money. They should come with support, strategy, and follow-up to ensure they achieve real, lasting results.
- Think of traditional donations like pouring water into a sieve—money flows in, but much of it leaks out due to inefficiencies, lack of oversight, and short-term thinking. Without follow-up and capacity-building, many donations fail to reach their full potential.
- FIG acts as the plugs in the sieve, systematically closing the gaps through:
 - ✓ Strategic funding – ensuring money goes where it has the highest impact.
 - ✓ Capacity-building – supporting organisations beyond just funding, helping them grow.
 - ✓ Ongoing oversight – tracking progress, refining strategies, and making sure donations achieve the intended results.
- With FIG, every pound is maximised, nurtured, and monitored—turning short-term giving into long-term, transformative change.

The FIG Model



1. **Our mission** is to enhance the impact of select social ventures through a tailored package of funding, strategic advice and operational support
2. **We identify ventures** which have the highest potential to grow and benefit islam and muslims in the UK
3. **We work alongside each venture** through a package of support tailored to their needs
4. **Our work** increases the capacity and impact of our chosen ventures
5. **The impact** of each venture contributes to making our vision a reality
6. **Our vision** is a society in which commitment to God is a flourishing underpinned by highly effective ventures



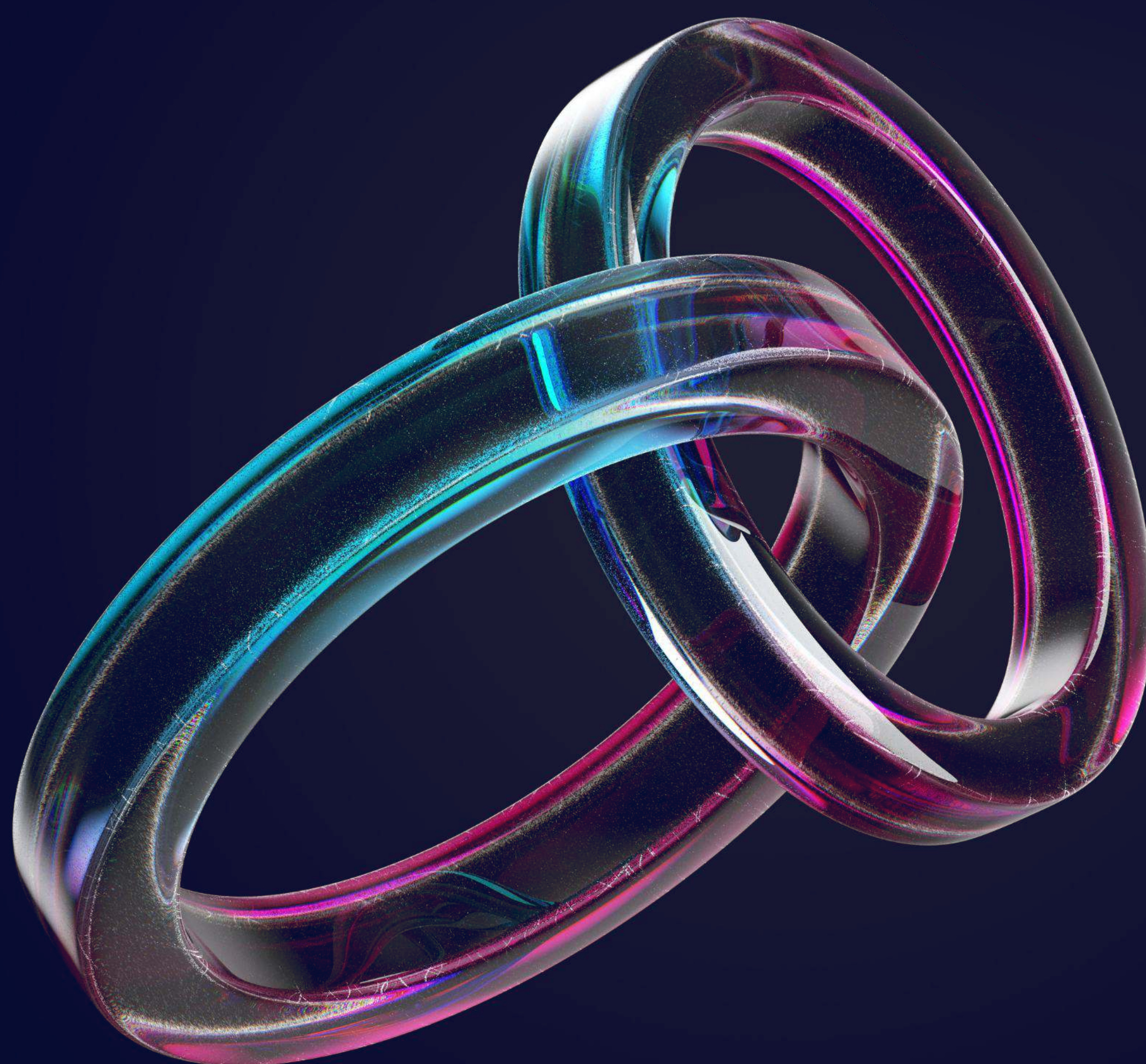
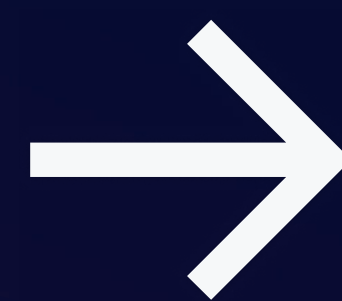
Gift Aid Status

We are now **fully gift aid eligible** as each of the charities we will be donating to are registered charities.

This means more funding for:

- Scaling high-impact initiatives
- Expanding legal, political, and social advocacy work
- Strengthening financial resilience within the community

This is a **game-changer**—your donations now go further than ever before.



How to donate

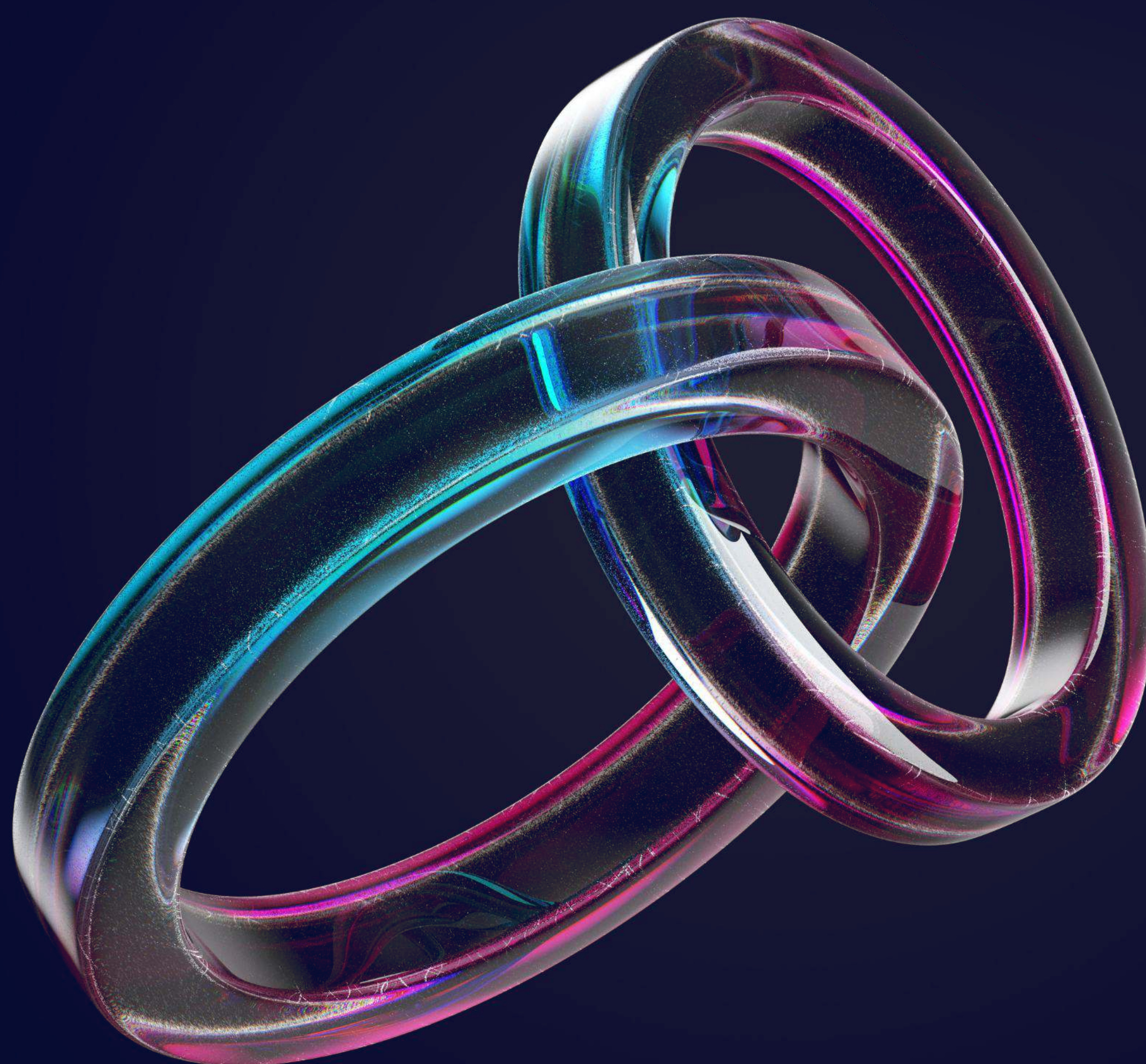
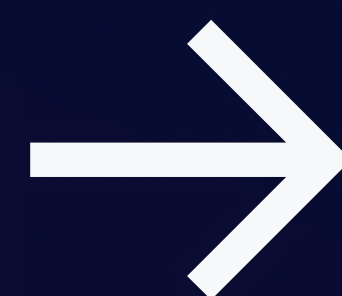


- Investors on the [**Cur8 Capital platform**](#) can directly donate there.
- Everyone can donate via [**this link**](#).
- Not sure what your zakat amount is? Calculate and donate it [**here**](#).

Please ensure you fill out all details needed to claim gift aid on your behalf.

You can expect to receive semi-annual reporting for this Fund.

**Jazzzak
Allah
Khayr**



**Appendix: Detailed Updates
from Existing Portfolio**

Recipient	Key Developments
National Zakat Foundation (NZF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus: Direct zakat distribution, financial literacy programs, and case management for vulnerable UK Muslims.• NZF has expanded its outreach, addressing financial challenges during economic instability. New initiatives include financial literacy workshops to empower beneficiaries toward independence.
The Muslim Vote (TMV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus: Political engagement and voter education in the Muslim community.• Election Success: Organised Community Action Groups (CAGs), uniting 600,000 Muslim voters and helping elect five independent candidates. Played a key role in defeating an anti-Muslim MP in a critical constituency.• Ongoing Work: Developing political literacy programs and advocacy resources for community leaders to create a unified Muslim voting bloc with greater influence on policies, particularly on Islamophobia, Palestinian rights, and social justice.

Recipient	Key Developments
Funders in Good (FIG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus: Supporting social ventures tackling social, economic, and cultural challenges in Muslim communities• Social Venture Academy: Received diverse applications, including standout projects• STRIVE: Advancing social mobility, helping Muslim youth secure internships and careers in top firms• Future Plans: Scale successful ventures and increase outreach to underrepresented groups, including Arabs and Somalis.
Islamophobia Response Unit (IRU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus: Support for victims of Islamophobia through legal aid, counselling, and public advocacy.• Key Cases: Secured a settlement for a Muslim woman dismissed due to workplace discrimination, leading to anti-discrimination training at her employer. Assisted a public transport harassment victim in filing a police report and receiving emotional support.• Advocacy: Partnered with local councils to implement education programs in schools and workplaces, advancing policy discussions on Islamophobia as a hate crime.• Future Goals: Establish permanent Islamophobia reporting units in local governments and develop training resources for public sector staff.

Recipient	Key Developments
5Pillars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus: Independent journalism and political advocacy for the Muslim community.• Election Impact: Mobilised Muslim voters during the UK General Election, influencing key constituencies through investigative work, such as interviews with candidates on the Blood Brothers podcast.• Journalism Highlights: Co-founder Dilly Hussain’s interviews with Afghan officials offered rare insights into the region’s political landscape, gaining mainstream media traction.• Future Plans: Expand their team to cover more global Muslim issues, with an emphasis on investigative journalism and policy analysis.
Equi	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus: Policy advocacy for British Muslims in areas like economic wellbeing, education, and healthcare.• Economic Wellbeing: A study on British Muslims’ contributions to the economy and addressing the “wealth drain” will be presented at the Labour Party conference.• Mental Health: Research on Islamic lifestyle benefits for reducing loneliness and improving mental health will inform new social service recommendations.• Future Vision: Strengthen ties with policymakers, media, and organisations to position Equi as the leading think tank for Muslim community insights in public policy.