Strategic Framework

2025-2029

TAi

COLLABORATIVE

FUNDERS for PARTICIPATORY
GOVERNANCE

CONTENTS

New context, new strategic framework

Introductory Message

As we look to the future of TAI, we recognize the need to adapt to a fast-shifting global context and the evolving needs of our members. In response, we are refreshing our approach—not through a radical overhaul, but by adapting to ensure we remain relevant and responsive.

This strategic refresh is the culmination of months of careful thought and debate. It introduces a flexible framework that will guide us for the next five years to maximize our collective impact. The framework explains who we are, what motivates us, how we work, how we learn, and how we engage with others. We outline the shifts we are making and aim to be more explicit about how TAI can be a platform for smarter and more impactful funding to strengthen trust, accountability, and inclusion. We believe those outcomes are essential components for a healthy democracy, economy, and planet. They are critical in their own right, but also for getting development results.

We feel the urgency of the current context. **Global challenges, such as climate change and inequality, demand collective responses**, but multilateralism has been undermined by a lack of mutual trust, lack of accountability for past promises and lack of inclusivity in rule setting. In many national contexts, we are also seeing declining trust in democratic processes and governing institutions. Accountability gaps fuel perceptions that economic systems "are rigged" and hopes for more informed policymaking are hampered by shifts in how people get their information and the rapid spread of mis and disinformation. However, there are bright spots, too. Trust is rising in some contexts. We have examples where people's power is successfully demanding accountability.

Looking ahead, we need to address the practical challenges and realities of governing from local to global levels. We will not achieve the systems change that so many funders, including ourselves, demand unless we invest in building more participatory and effective governance in societies.

Platforms, such as TAI, have an important role to play in focusing donor attention and resources and creating spaces for new learning, ideas and narratives. This strategic update explicitly recognizes our interest to engage the broader donor community, beyond our membership. We need to do a better job articulating the value of investing in trust, accountability and inclusion.

At the same time, we recognize that we need to live by the values that we espouse. TAI members want to become more trust-based, accountable, and inclusive funders. We made progress on this front in our last strategy period with members sharing and learning almost as much on how we fund as what we fund. This updated framework further embeds those efforts as core to TAI's purpose and an important area for cross-learning with other funders and funder communities.

Finally, this strategic framework reflects our continued belief and commitment to working collaboratively. There has been welcome attention to donor collaboration in the literature of late and we see the value born out every day through engagement in TAI and fellow funder collectives. We can do more together. The resources dedicated to strengthening participatory governance around the world are already spread too thin – we have a responsibility to grow those resources, but also to make sure they are aligned and used most effectively.

We attempt to convey how we envisage that happening through our new theory of change. We hope it resonates. Take a look and tell us what you think. Above all, we invite you to join forces. There is a lot to be done!

Sincerely,
Emmanuel Kuyole of Ford Foundation, Chair of the TAI Steering Committee
and Michael Jarvis, Executive Director of the TAI Secretariat

01. Who we are

The Trust, Accountability, and Inclusion Collaborative - Funders for Participatory Governance (TAI) is a platform for donor learning and action. Our members seek to strengthen trust, accountability, and inclusion in societies around the globe (and in their own funding practices) as building blocks for a more just world where democracy, economy, and planet thrive.

TAI connects and leverages the deep expertise and leadership of those who fund programming related to trust, accountability, and inclusion. We provide a space for them to learn from each other and build new thinking and action. Our members come together to strategize, evolve funder practices, and expand the funder ecosystem. TAI helps members serve disadvantaged communities and support their inclusive grantmaking, further enhancing the impact of their efforts. TAI also acts as a bridge with the field, assuring flows of knowledge and exchange on evidence, funding trends, and pain points in the funder ecosystem.

We are grateful to count among our members some of the most influential and dedicated international grantmaking organizations working in the governance sector and at the intersection with economic, social, and climate justice:

MEMBERS

Ford Foundation   HUMANITY UNITED   Luminate

THE DAVID & LUCILE Packard Foundation   WILLIAM + FLORA Hewlett Foundation

CHANDLER FOUNDATION   OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS   MacArthur Foundation

OBSERVERS

Bilateral donors with a track record of funding participatory governance, such as the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, regularly participate in TAI conversations as official observers.

Each member is represented on TAI's Steering Committee governing the collective agenda and resources, supported by a small, nimble secretariat.

TAI was established as the Transparency and Accountability Initiative in 2010 as a field-building effort bringing together donors and leading NGO partners, and it was rebooted as a funders-only space in 2016. It has since focused on helping funders overcome the institutional barriers they face to learning and collaboration, namely:

- Programmatic **silos** can make it difficult for funders to connect, share and learn relevant **lessons**.

- **Lack of coordination** among funders creates redundancies, gaps, and missed opportunities.

- Foundations find it challenging to put trust-based funding principles into **practice**.

- It is **difficult to experiment** with new topics and approaches within the constraints of a foundation's strategy.

- Many funders lack an understanding of how participatory governance **intersects with their priorities**; it's still not a mainstream part of many development narratives.

In 2023, TAI was rebranded as the Trust, Accountability, and Inclusion Collaborative – Funders for Participatory Governance. This resulted from extensive reflection and alignment with our mission, our members' priorities, and the ever-evolving landscape of global governance and philanthropy. As then TAI Chair, Tony Bebbington noted, "Trust and inclusion are cornerstones of any agenda that tracks towards social justice and effective, accountable government. Similarly, collaboration is a cornerstone of effective philanthropy and development cooperation. This rebrand captures these two truths." The shift was also in tune with more deliberate engagement of practitioners to inform TAI funder thinking and actions and be truly in support of the field. As noted by Steering Committee member Amina Salihu, the name change, "allows us to lead with the power of our philosophy rather than of the purse."

02. Refreshing Our Approach: A Strategic Framework for TAI's Next Chapter

As we look ahead to the future of TAI, it's clear that the landscape of participatory governance has evolved. Our members have shifted their priorities, and we, as a collective, have deepened our commitment to the core values of trust, accountability, and inclusion. In response to these changes, it's time to refresh our approach to better reflect the dynamic needs of our members and the broader field.

This is not a radical shift in strategy, but rather an adaptation to ensure that we remain responsive and relevant. Hence, we are proposing a five-year strategic framework, which will allow us to remain flexible and align with the shifting priorities and needs of both our members and the global context in which we work.

A PARTICIPATORY PROCESS

This revised framework is a result of a comprehensive, participatory process. We looked back at TAI's 2020-2024 strategy and structure, to evaluate how effectively it has served our work and where we can improve. We then established a Strategy Refresh Committee, which brought together four Steering Committee members who served as a regular sounding board for the secretariat. We also conducted interviews with current and past Steering Committee members, held a series of learning sessions with the secretariat, and sought validation from the entire Steering Committee.

KEY AREAS OF REFLECTION AND NEW FRAMEWORK

Based on what we found and heard, we consolidated our inquiry around three guiding questions:

1 **TOPICS/THEMES:**
For the past five years, TAI intentionally did not anchor its strategy to specific topics or themes, opting for a more flexible approach. This allowed TAI to better adapt to shifting needs and priorities, but it created challenges around focus and clear communication.

- **Given these lessons, how should TAI approach selecting and engaging with topics in the future?**
- **Who should decide which topics to prioritize, and how should those decisions be made?**

2 **ACTIVITIES/OFFERINGS:**
TAI's offerings expanded substantially in the last five years as the team experimented with new ways to add value to members and the field.

- **Based on what we learned, how should TAI prioritize its activities going forward?**

3 **MEMBERSHIP:**
In an effort to expand the funding ecosystem, TAI shifted its focus from members-only engagement to more intentional engagement of non-member funders.

- **How should TAI approach membership going forward?**
- **What expectations should we set for member engagement, and what criteria and boundaries should guide our interactions with non-members?**

These reflections have led us to sharpen our focus and be more intentional about what we do and why we do it. Changes are outlined in more detail below, but include:

Focus on a limited number of rotating topics combined with some unprogrammed flexible capacity.

Categorize activities into standard offerings and those with a higher threshold for adoption into TAI work planning.

Recognize that engaging with and influencing the broader donor ecosystem is an important function for TAI to play.

Underpinning all these shifts is a **revised set of decision-making processes.** For example, we have clarified steps for proposing/selecting/renewing collective thematic priorities, and new criteria for decision taking on specific projects with earmarked funding (a new role being performed by the secretariat).

The shifts are encapsulated in a new **Theory of Change** that we believe better explains our pathways to change aligned with a renewed vision and mission. We hope that it clarifies the roles of funder members and secretariat in relation to goals, outcomes, and activities. It more clearly illustrates how TAI can influence the funding landscape for participatory governance, with and through its members.

By embracing these changes, we are ensuring that we remain aligned with our members' priorities while staying flexible enough to adapt to the evolving participatory governance field.

03. TAI´s mission & vision

OUR VISION

A just world where trust, accountability, and inclusion are integrated into all systems of governance. We see these as the foundations of a healthy democracy, economy, and planet.

OUR MISSION

We learn, strategize, and collaborate to enhance the impact of participatory governance funding.

Why trust, accountability, and inclusion?

Trust serves as the foundation for collective problem-solving and the effective functioning of democratic representation. It is the cornerstone from which **accountability** stems and is reinforced. We will not solve today's pressing problems, be that the climate emergency or the spread of disinformation, without accountability of power holders for their actions - especially those in government, corporations, and donor organizations. At the same time, we will not achieve more equitable and sustainable development without fostering **inclusion** in both decision-making processes and the distribution of resources.

In sum, we believe that trust, accountability, and inclusion are:

Essential principles to underpin development (and our own funding approaches).

Enablers of **smarter policy choices** that acknowledge trade-offs and **power imbalances in the choices** we must make collectively.

Necessary, although not sufficient, **preconditions to achieving more sustainable solutions to today's pressing global challenges.**

We want to see:

→ Restored **trust** in institutions, in evidence, and in democratic processes

→ Governments, corporations, and donor agencies held to **account** for their actions

→ More **inclusive** approaches to decision-making from local to global levels.

Attention to these dimensions increases the chances that we can restore the health of our planet, our economies, and our democracies.

The TAI community also seeks to live the values it promotes by encouraging more transparent, participatory, and accountable funding. Let us practice what we preach.

> Our tagline is **"Funders for participatory governance".** What does participatory governance mean to us? It means people can actively, effectively, and safely engage in public decision-making processes from local to global levels. It means they have the information and freedom to influence policies and initiatives directly affecting their lives.
>
> TAI member partners continue to add to the evidence that participatory governance practices contribute to stronger transparency, accountability, and responsiveness of government and in turn better development outcomes.
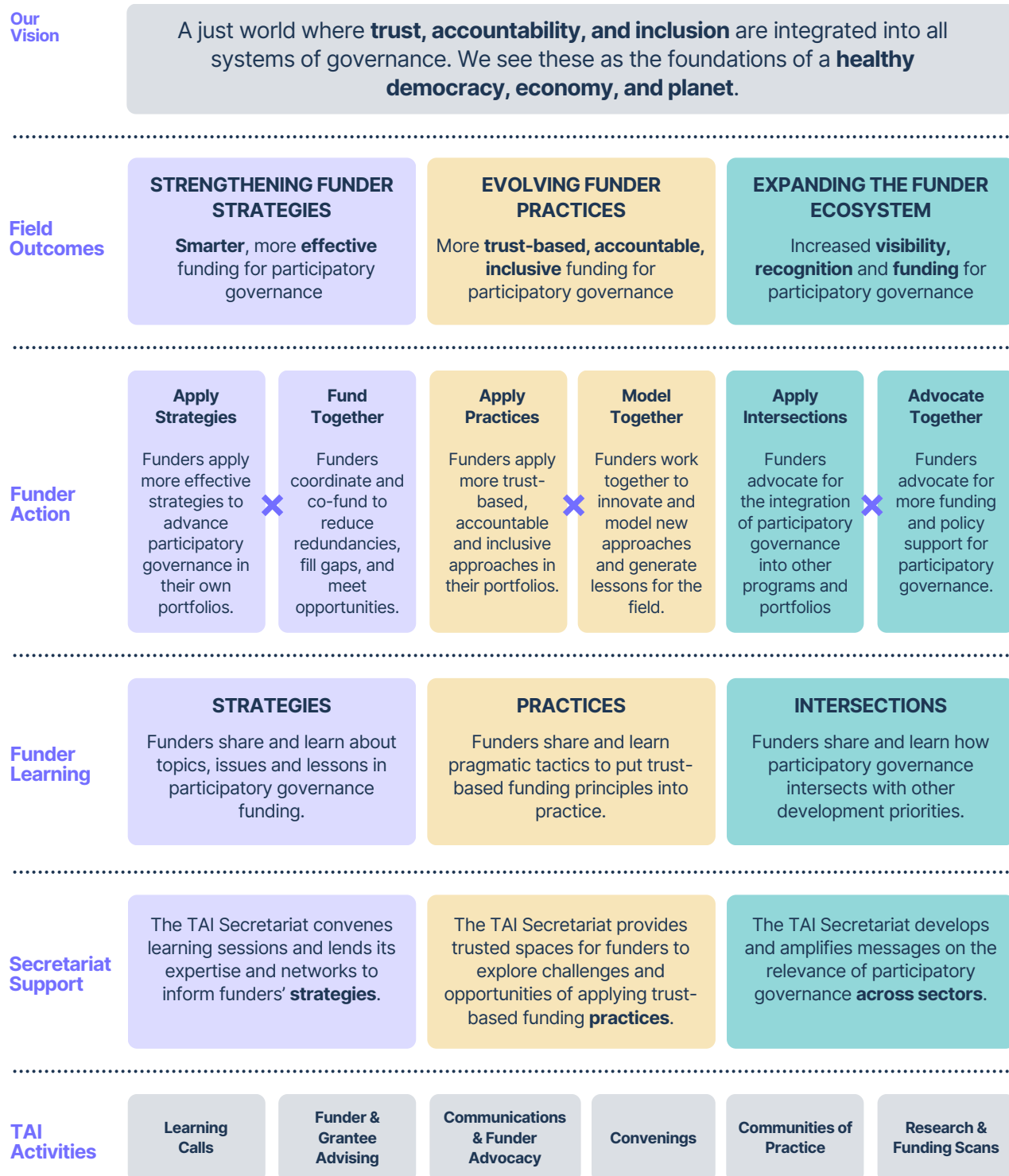
"

Each funder perceives the world as the group of grantees they are working with. TAI has the possibility to see the full picture, a bigger picture.

- TAI member

04. TAI's theory of change

TAI's theory of change illustrates how TAI works with and through its members to enhance the impact of participatory governance funding.

Our Vision	A just world where **trust, accountability, and inclusion** are integrated into all systems of governance. We see these as the foundations of a **healthy democracy, economy, and planet**.

Field Outcomes	STRENGTHENING FUNDER STRATEGIES	EVOLVING FUNDER PRACTICES	EXPANDING THE FUNDER ECOSYSTEM
	Smarter, more **effective** funding for participatory governance	More **trust-based, accountable, inclusive** funding for participatory governance	Increased **visibility, recognition** and **funding** for participatory governance

Funder Action	Apply Strategies	Fund Together	Apply Practices	Model Together	Apply Intersections	Advocate Together
	Funders apply more effective strategies to advance participatory governance in their own portfolios.	Funders coordinate and co-fund to reduce redundancies, fill gaps, and meet opportunities.	Funders apply more trust-based, accountable and inclusive approaches in their portfolios.	Funders work together to innovate and model new approaches and generate lessons for the field.	Funders advocate for the integration of participatory governance into other programs and portfolios	Funders advocate for more funding and policy support for participatory governance.

Funder Learning	STRATEGIES	PRACTICES	INTERSECTIONS
	Funders share and learn about topics, issues and lessons in participatory governance funding.	Funders share and learn pragmatic tactics to put trust-based funding principles into practice.	Funders share and learn how participatory governance intersects with other development priorities.

Secretariat Support	The TAI Secretariat convenes learning sessions and lends its expertise and networks to inform funders' **strategies**.	The TAI Secretariat provides trusted spaces for funders to explore challenges and opportunities of applying trust-based funding **practices**.	The TAI Secretariat develops and amplifies messages on the relevance of participatory governance **across sectors**.

| **TAI Activities**	Learning Calls	Funder & Grantee Advising	Communications & Funder Advocacy	Convenings	Communities of Practice	Research & Funding Scans

TAI's theory of change:

- anchors TAI's strategy on three pillars: strengthening funder strategies, evolving funder practices, and expanding the funder ecosystem.

- identifies funders as critical agents of change: TAI's core strategy is to support and influence funders to take actions that enhance the impact of participatory governance to restore the health of our planet, our economies, and our democracies.

- honors both individual and collective action by funders as equally important pathways toward these goals.

- rests on funder learning as a foundational motivator and enabler for action – and prioritizes TAI's activities to enable learning.

- clarifies the role of the secretariat as a trusted facilitator of learning and collaboration

OUR HYPOTHESIS:

If TAI provides facilitation, spaces, and support for funders to learn and collaborate, then these funders will take individual and collective action to strengthen their strategies, evolve their practices, and expand the funder ecosystem. This will ultimately enhance the impact of participatory governance funding, contributing to the integration of trust, accountability, and inclusion into all systems of governance as the foundations of a healthy democracy, economy, and planet.

Field Outcomes

To achieve its mission of enhancing the impact of participatory governance funding, **TAI works toward three outcomes:**
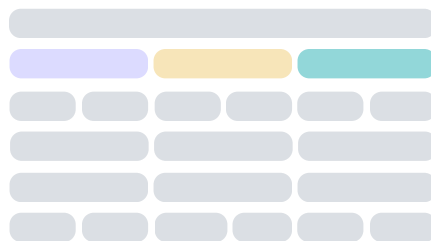
STRENGTHENING FUNDER STRATEGIES

Smarter, more **effective** funding for participatory governance

In our vision, funders support initiatives that meet real needs, move quickly to fill funding gaps, generate evidence and learning, and apply these lessons to future funding. This ensures that **what we fund** is effective and strategic.

EVOLVING FUNDER PRACTICES

More **trust-based, accountable, inclusive** funding for participatory governance

In our vision, funders of participatory governance model the world they want to see, employing funding practices that center grantees and the people they serve. This ensures that **how we fund** aligns with our core values.

EXPANDING THE FUNDER ECOSYSTEM

Increased **visibility, recognition** and **funding** for participatory governance

In our vision, funders from all sectors recognize that trust, accountability, and inclusion are critical to the issues they care about – and direct resources to support them. This ensures that the **funder ecosystem** is healthy and can sustain its support for the field in the long run.

Funder Actions

Funders are the critical agents of change in TAI's work. Through funder actions - both individual and collective - TAI is able to enhance the impact of funding for participatory governance.
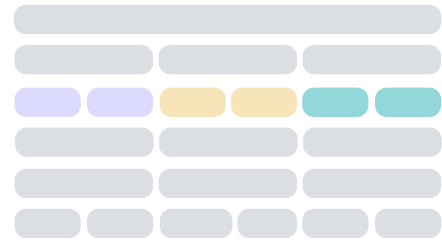
TAI supports funders to take the following actions:

STRENGTHENING FUNDER STRATEGIES

To advance **smarter, more effective** funding for participatory governance, funders can:

Apply Strategies

Funders apply more effective strategies to advance participatory governance in their own portfolios.

Fund Together

Funders coordinate and co-fund to reduce redundancies, fill gaps, and meet opportunities.

EVOLVING FUNDER PRACTICES

To advance **trust-based, accountable,** and **inclusive** funding for participatory governance, funders can:

Apply Practices

Funders apply more trust-based, accountable and inclusive approaches in their portfolios.

Model Together

Funders work together to innovate and model new approaches and generate lessons for the field.

EXPANDING THE FUNDER ECOSYSTEM

To **increase visibility, recognition, and funding** for participatory governance, funders can:

Apply Intersections

Funders advocate for the integration of participatory governance into other programs and portfolios

Advocate Together

Funders advocate for more funding and policy support for participatory governance.

Funder Learning

Funder learning is a necessary first step for funder action. It provides the inspiration and the rationale for funders to make changes.
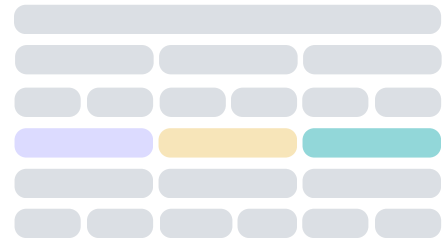
At TAI, funders gain knowledge and skills along each of the three pillars:

STRATEGIES

Funders share and learn about topics, issues and lessons in participatory governance funding.

→ Example: *TAI conducted funding scans to identify gaps in funding for anti-corruption, healthy information ecosystems, and international tax justice, drawing funders' attention to opportunities to provide critical support.*

PRACTICES

Funders share and learn pragmatic tactics to put trust-based funding principles into practice.

→ Example: *TAI's 2024 Learning Days in Mexico City tackled practical questions of how funders can effectively localizegovernance-related funding, shifting power and decision making to local actors.*

INTERSECTIONS

Funders share and learn how participatory governance intersects with other development priorities.

→ Example: *TAI convened a series of learning calls with climate funders on the ways that trust, accountability, inclusion are critical to a just transition.*

Secretariat Support

The TAI Secretariat plays a critical role in supporting funder learning and collaboration across all three pillars.
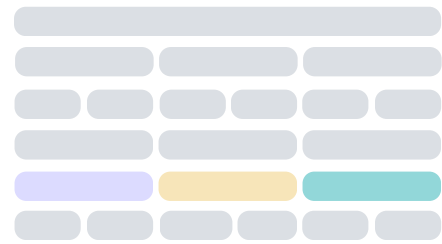
STRATEGIES

The TAI Secretariat convenes learning sessions and lends its expertise and networks to inform funders' **strategies**.

(→) Example - *TAI has informed the development of new funder portfolios on tax that emphasize the role of non-state actors in helping build fairer and more effective tax systems.*

PRACTICES

The TAI Secretariat provides trusted spaces for funders to explore challenges and opportunities of applying trust-based funding **practices**.

(→) Example - *TAI is currently hosting a funder learning series on the opportunities and risks of more political philanthropy*

INTERSECTIONS

The TAI Secretariat develops and amplifies messages on the relevance of participatory governance **across sectors**.

(→) Example - *TAI highlighted lessons from the governance field relevant to future pandemic spending, including recommendations on participation and accountability for the new Pandemic Fund.*

Across all three pillars, the secretariat is also a channel for **bringing field concerns to the funder community, highlighting gaps in support, calling out adverse impacts of certain funder practices, and championing field messages.** The secretariat seeks to play a useful bridging role where possible, cognizant of power differentials.

The secretariat is also committed to **assuring that all knowledge products are translated into public goods** and that it provides a knowledge brokering service for funders and practitioners alike.

TAI Activities

TAI prioritizes the activities that most effectively inform its members' strategies, practices, and advocacy efforts. TAI's work plan is built around these **foundational activities:**
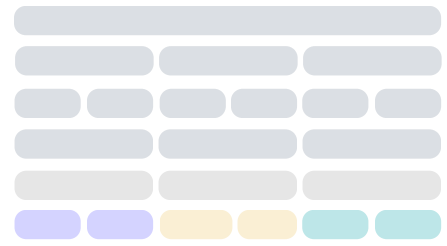
- **Convenings** that bring funders together to learn, share, and collaborate.

- **Learning calls** that explore specific themes, practices, or intersections.

- **Communications** that amplify messages about the importance of funding trust, accountability, and inclusion in governance.

- **Advocating** to funders about expanding their support to participatory governance.

- **Advising member and non-member funders** on the most strategic ways to allocate their resources.

- **Advising field actors** on navigating the evolving funding landscape.

TAI also takes on **special projects** to advance specific goals or address a critical gap in the field. These include:

- **Communities of practice** that explore a specific theme over an extended period, with the goal of promoting shared learning collaboration.

- **Research** that informs funder strategy and practice, including funding scans to identify critical gaps in resourcing.

Putting it Together

The Secretariat and members each play an important role in enhancing the impact of participatory governance funding.

STRENGTHENING FUNDER STRATEGIES

The TAI Secretariat **convenes** learning sessions and **lends its expertise and networks** to inform funders' strategies, while funders **share and learn** about topics, issues, and lessons in participatory governance funding.

This enables funders to **(1) apply** more effective strategies to advance participatory governance in their portfolios and **(2) coordinate** and **co-fund** to reduce redundancies, fill gaps, and meet opportunities.

Ultimately, this leads to **smarter, more effective funding** for participatory governance. It ensures that **what we fund** is effective and strategic.

EVOLVING FUNDER PRACTICES

The TAI Secretariat **provides trusted spaces** for funders to explore challenges and opportunities of applying trust-based funding practices, while funders **share and learn** pragmatic tactics to put trust-based funding principles into practice.

This enables funders to **(1) apply** more trust-based, accountable, and inclusive approaches in their portfolios and **(2)** work together to **innovate and model** new participatory approaches and generate lessons for the field.

Ultimately, this leads to more **trust-based, accountable, and inclusive funding** for participatory governance. It ensures that **how we fund** aligns with our core values.

EXPANDING THE FUNDER ECOSYSTEM

The TAI Secretariat **develops and amplifies messages** on the relevance of participatory governance across sectors, while funders share and learn how participatory governance intersects with other development priorities.

This enables funders to **(1) advocate internally** for the integration of participatory governance into other programs and portfolios and **(2) advocate externally** for more funding and policy support for participatory governance.

Ultimately, this leads to **increased visibility, recognition, and funding** for participatory governance. It ensures that the **funder ecosystem** is healthy and can sustain its support for the field in the long run.

The three pillars naturally reinforce each other; for example:

1 If we strengthen funder strategies, we will generate more robust evidence and identify more timely opportunities to **attract new funding** to the space.

2 If we evolve funder practices, our strengthened trust and connection with field actors will enable more **effective and continuous learning.**

3 If we expand the funder ecosystem, we will have more **resources to advance our collective strategies and practices.**

Taken together, these three strategies ensure not only that there are more dollars directed toward improving systems of governance but also that each dollar is spent effectively and with our values at the core.

Assumptions

Four key assumptions underpin TAI's theory of change:

1 TAI's members will continue to build and foster **trusted relationships** with each other. These relationships are foundational for the vibrant engagement, thoughtful sharing and reflection, and meaningful collaborations that will lead to impact.

2 The individuals engaging with TAI have the **power** and the **will to make meaningful changes** to their programs' strategies and practices.

3 It is possible for TAI to achieve its goals through both individual funder efforts and through **collaborations between funders.** Collaboration is not the only pathway to impact, but it has an important amplifying effect.

3 The most effective way to expand visibility and funding for participatory governance is to shine a light on the **relevance** of these issues across sectors.

05. Operations & governance

NEW WORKING STRUCTURE

The insights gained around our core strategic questions (related to topics/themes, activities, and membership) inform a new working structure for TAI.

1 **PILLARS:**

Our work will be organized around three strategic pillars:

1. Strengthening Funder Strategies
2. Evolving Funder Practices
3. Expanding the Funder Ecosystem

This is a simple refinement and relabeling of our existing pillar structure that members determined has worked well.

2 **PRIORITIES & ACTIVITIES:**

TAI members will select up to four thematic priorities to focus on at any one time. We anticipate working for up to two years on each priority. TAI will focus on at least one priority theme under each of its three pillars. These themes will connect to our members' programming, and they will guide TAI's work for that period. The Steering Committee will review the status of these priorities annually, deciding whether to extend or exit an existing priority and whether to add any new priority.

Compared to the last strategy period when we had no fixed themes, we think it important to have a few rotating themes to guide us because it provides coherence, allows TAI to go sufficiently in-depth without being stretched too thin, and retains relevance to members' priorities.

Under each priority, there will be specific projects and activities, which will be defined in an annual work plan.

Pillars (fixed)	STRENGTHENING FUNDER STRATEGIES	EVOLVING FUNDER PRACTICES	EXPANDING THE FUNDER ECOSYSTEM
Priorities (rotating every 2 years)	Fiscal Ecosystems	Intermediaries in the participatory governance space	Climate Governance
	Gender Just Economies	Peer funder influencing	Democratic and civic space
Projects /Activities	Tax and debt working groups	Mapping and case studies of Global South intermediaries	Fast accountability research
	Funder engagement around fiscal ecosystems	Funder call	Advocacy / Comms
	Community of learning and practice	Influencing peer funders working group	International funders table

(these are illustrative examples only)

One Steering Committee member and one secretariat member will champion each priority. The Steering Committee member will provide advice and feedback and the secretariat will be accountable for carrying out the workstream.

3 MEMBERSHIP & PARTNERSHIP:

TAI is a collaborative, governed by and serving its members. TAI's members are among the largest philanthropic funders focused on the intersection of participatory governance with climate, democracy, and/or economic equity on an international scale. Without a major shift in thematic focus or strategy, TAI does not anticipate a significant expansion of the number of formal members over the next five years, but rather to continue close partnership with these critical leaders in the funding ecosystem.

However, we remain committed to welcoming other funders into the tent of participatory governance. In line with the Expanding Funder Ecosystem pillar, TAI should be a source of knowledge and advice to all funders who can help increase visibility, recognition, or funding for participatory governance, and whose values align with those of TAI. In this regard, we also plan to continue to partner with other funder collaboratives and networks that have adjacent thematic priorities, for example around human rights, addressing the climate emergency or rethinking economic orthodoxy.

4 **DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:**

Decision-making will continue to be based on consensus. The secretariat will solicit proposals for new priorities and for specific activities from members on an annual basis and then propose a draft annual work plan. The Steering Committee will then vote on priorities and activities (typically at the annual retreat), where the status of the priorities will also be reviewed to decide whether to continue or sunset them.

At the six-month mark of each annual work cycle, members will have the opportunity to propose any time-sensitive additions to the current work plan. Again, the Steering Committee will vote on which to adopt. The secretariat will reserve a small portion of the budget (~USD50,000) and staff time (~30 staff person-days) to respond to those just-in-time requests and emergent opportunities.

5 **THE SECRETARIAT TEAM:**

TAI is supported by a core secretariat staff of 5 full-time members, backed by advisors or consultants depending on the initiatives underway. We anticipate a modest growth depending on demand and resources.

Additionally, the secretariat will remain fully decentralized and diverse, with staff members based in and originating from both the Global North and the Global South. TAI will continue to provide opportunities to young professionals from the Global South through international fellowship programs that not only enrich TAI's work and help build field capacity, but also broaden perspectives and foster cross-cultural understanding.

Looking for insights, data, and tools to inform your funding strategy?
TAI's website and Knowledge Hub offer a curated collection of reports, case studies, and blogs designed to support the philanthropic landscape.

Learn more

06. Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning at TAI

Learning is in TAI's DNA - it is baked into TAI's strategy to facilitate funder learning to propel the field forward.

TAI's focus on learning applies not only to the field of participatory governance but also to its own role and goals as a funder collaborative. In this role, TAI is committed to constant learning and improvement.

With a new strategy and theory of change comes a new set of hypotheses to test – and an opportunity to rethink how TAI approaches evaluation and learning.

TAI's work is not linear. TAI is a dynamic network, that works to influence diverse actors, operates in a complex and unpredictable global context, and aspires to create systems change. Together, these factors demand a rethink of how TAI approaches evaluation and learning: from a linear, metrics-based approach to one that responds to emergent learning and captures signs of systems change.

In the coming months, the TAI Secretariat will release the plan that will guide evaluation and learning for the next five years.

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Certain things are more than the sum of the parts. TAI can add additional value - intersections between fields, between global north/south, new areas that funders are not eager to go because of their strategies/pools.

- TAI member

Interested in investing in trust, accountability and inclusion? Let's connect. Email us, explore our website, or follow us on social media to stay informed and engaged. Let's make this strategy a reality, together.