

## Karibu New Reality Grant – Framework

*Approved by Karibu Board, 10 June 2021*

The Karibu Foundation will initiate a pilot in “Participatory Grantmaking,” where Karibu’s grantees themselves will define a majority of the criteria, reporting requirements, and the decisions of what initiatives receive grants within the bounds of this pilot project.



### 1. The name of the pilot

Karibu New Reality Grant (KNRG)

### 2. Timeframe

The pilot will be conducted from 2021-2024 (2.5 years). The pilot will consist of two cycles of grants-making groups:

- Cycle 1: 2021-2022 (1 year)
- Cycle 2: 2022-2023 (1 year)

An evaluation processes will occur in 2023-2024 (1/2 year).

### 3. Budget allocation

Karibu will allocate 500.000 USD. This allocation will be divided in the following manner:

- Cycle 1 grants (2021-2022): 200.000,- USD
- Cycle 2 grants (2022-2023): 200.000,- USD
- Administrative: travels, remunerations, meetings (2021-2024): 100.000 USD

### 4. Relation to Karibu’s other grantmaking process

The pilot will not have direct effect on Karibu’s regular grantmaking procedures and does not replace Karibu’s regular grantmaking operations. Organizations that are involved in the pilot are therefore eligible to apply for regular Karibu grants through Karibu’s normal grantmaking procedures.

### 5. Thematic focus of the pilot

Through a participatory grant-making approach, the pilot aims to support bold, innovative, forward thinking, “constructive troublemaking” and imaginative initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa that add new dimensions and makes stronger the collective struggle for systemic change. Grants provided in the project will support creative, strategic, agenda-setting, and network-building groups and change actors in Sub-Saharan Africa that are able to connect the local / national struggle with regional / global realities. The pilot and grant will have an intersectional thematic

focus, and there is a desire to support the collective transition to a new courageous generation of actors as they continue the struggle for a just world and more just Africa.

Although Sub-Saharan Africa represents many language groups, all meetings, documents, and grant applications will be conducted/produced in solely English due to practical limitations.

All grants that are eventually awarded from this pilot project will be in line with overall vision, aims and objectives of the Karibu Foundation.

## **6. Participants in the pilot**

Participants in the pilot's grantmaking group will be African change-actors who have demonstrated their ability to use analytic courage, strategic clarity, and moral courage in their struggle for a more just world. They will have the clear ability to collaborate across generations and thematic areas. The participants in the grantmaking group will be identified on the basis of nominations from invited organisations and movements. The grantmaking group's final constellation will represent a breadth of socio-economic backgrounds, thematic expertise, and gender expressions. Participants commit to actively building and participating in the pilot for the duration of their participation in a grant-making group.

The participants will be decided through a selection process with current / former Karibu grantees, and will be nominated by invited African organizations/movements.

## **7. Mechanics of the pilot**

The pilot will consist of two "cycles" of rolling grant-making groups.

### **Cycle 1: 6 African participants + 1 Karibu representative**

The grantmaking group is tasked with designing the grant-making guidelines and routines, and charged making the decisions about which projects and groups will be supported with grants during the period.

The organisations/movements that the participants represent cannot receive grants when they are participating in their "cycle," but can be eligible again when they leave. They are, however, eligible for normal Karibu grants programs and within common criteria set for receiving Karibu grant.

### **Cycle 2: 6 African participants (where 50% remain from the previous group) + 1 Karibu representative**

The group will be tasked at learning from the first cycle of grants, adapting or updating the processes, and charged with making decisions about which projects and groups will be supported with grants during the period

50% of the Cycle 1 group will remain for Cycle 2 group, and 3 of those who received the funds from Cycle 1 are invited into the group. This is to ensure a clear overlap, as well as to bring in lessons and experiences of the grantees to the pilot themselves.

The organisations/movements represented with those participants who serve in both cycles (3 persons) will not be eligible for funds for either cycle. The group will decide themselves who will continue or not.

Both cycles commit to collaborating on the evaluation process on the pilot in 2023 and 2024.

#### **8. Remuneration for participants**

The participants will be remunerated for their time within the project budget according to an agreement between Karibu and the organisation/movement that has nominated the individual participant.

#### **9. Research component**

The pilot will include a parallel research component, currently proposed as a Participatory Research. The research will hopefully be conducted by an African research institution, in collaboration with The University of South-Eastern Norway. The researcher in charge (The African research partner) will have full access to the group's discussions and deliberations throughout the process. The researchers will gain data through surveys, observation and dialogue with the participants throughout the process (allowing the participants to be actively involved as advisors, active respondents, and peer researchers). The researcher will not have a vote in the process. The research goal will be to describe and explore the pilot in scientific terms, regarding process and impact.

#### **10. Reporting**

The general framework for documentation and reporting for the grantmaking group of the pilot is as follows:

- Minutes are taken from meetings of grantmaking group and potential sub-groups
- Communication (internal and external) is archived
- Concluding Cycle Reports are produced after Cycle 1 and Cycle 2
- A final report from the grantmaking group of their implementation of the pilot is produced within 6 months after end of Cycle 2.

Form, profile and content of these reports is decided by the grantmaking group

## 11. Role of Karibu

Karibu has the responsibility and mandate to:

- Approve of the mandate and framework for the pilot
- Secure financial allocations for the pilot
- Allocate Karibu representative to the pilot, serving as both a vote from Karibu and secretarial function
- Formally and for legal reason make final approve of grants, with a commitment to follow the decisions of the grant-making groups to the furthest extent possible. If there is a fundamental disagreement about the decision of the grant-making group, the pilot will be placed on pause until a joint solution can be agreed upon. The parties will agree upon a third-party mediator to assist with the process in the event of this occurring.
- Receive and comment on reports from the grantmaking group as described in section 10
- Make decisions on potential next steps after the pilot's conclusion based on received reports from grantmaking group and findings from research process on the whole pilot.

### Background Notes on each section:

The following section background to how the Karibu staff and Board (together with the advices and collaboration with partners) have concluded on these points. It also provides additional details and clarifications to each point:

1. Name of the pilot: The working title related to “New Realities” places focus on the critical forward-focused aspect of the grants given the immense global and regional crises that have come even further to light during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the need to add new dimensions and make stronger the collective struggle for systemic change. The Swahili word “Karibu” is not only the name of the Foundation, but also represents the African ownership of the pilot. While final name of the grant program, can be discussed and changed by the pilot participants, it is expected that the “Karibu” name will be kept in the name of the grant in order to express the ideological and basis of the Karibu Foundation.
2. Timeframe: Timeframes may change due to necessity or unforeseen events. Amending timeframes, however, must be approved by the Karibu Board.
3. Budget allocation: The amounts in USD are not subject to change even if currency exchange rates between USD and NOK should fluctuate. The consequences of currency fluctuation is carried by Karibu.
4. Relation to Karibu's other grantmaking programs: In understanding of the concern of partners during early consultations that this pilot will replace Karibu's regular grantmaking opportunities for already struggling movements, the pilot will not be considered as part of Karibu's regular grant-making programs. The funds allocated for the pilot can be understood as “distinct” new project in Karibu's operations that should not have direct economic impact on the regular grant programs. This also includes eligibility for participants to be able to apply for Karibu's regular grants, as these potential applications would go through Karibu's regular grant-making procedures.

5. Thematic and regional focus: The question of the “scope” of this pilot has been point of curiosity since the pilots first origins. A majority of PGM processes in other settings are often conducted with groups of people that have some concrete, shared commonality (thematically, geographically, demographically). After considerable thought and evaluation, it was determined that a thematic intersectionality was critical given the need for collaboration across thematic silos to address systemic issues. The decision was ultimately made to focus the pilot specifically on the participation of individuals / groups from a region: that of Sub-Saharan Africa. The rationale for this relates to the following:

Africa continues to be at the forefront of neo-colonialism, neo-imperialism, and extractivism in many forms, with a wide range of old and emerging powers playing active roles in this exploitation. This reality relates to many of the themes that Karibu is already working very closely with: trade, militarism, climate justice, food sovereignty, and more. Africa continues also to be hit hard by the new realities of the post COVID-19 world, as vaccines are not expected to much of the continent before 2024 while much of the rest of the world already this year “aims to move forward” after the pandemic. Yet the consequences of the pandemic will continue to hit the global South (including Africa) the hardest.

Karibu (which means “welcome” in Swahili) also has its historic roots with close partnerships in Sub-Saharan Africa. Many of the projects and partners Karibu supported in Africa over the past 35 years have been related to processes of a collective African voice in the struggle for justice, pan-Africanism, or in some way related to the “African Renaissance”. Many of these processes, however, have either stalled, stopped completely, or have not reached the goals they had originally aimed to achieve (for various external and internal reasons), and Karibu has also experienced a decreasing number of African voices in the global processes it has been supporting. There is also a clear generational shift occurring, with many of the previous generation of change actors now becoming the elders of movements.

6. Participants in the process: Section 6 provides some guiding principles from the Karibu Board about what qualities the participants should possess. For Karibu, there is a desire to support the collective transition to a new courageous generation of actors as they continue the struggle for a just world. Feedback from both the Karibu’s Board and Karibu’s partners of earlier drafts has resulted on the inter-generational effort of transitioning to a new generation of leaders. There is therefore no “age cap” on the participants or actors as such, but a proposal that participants in the pilot (of all ages) represent a demonstrated openness and willingness to move towards a new generation of actors. The aim will be an inter-generational approach to bring the wisdom and lessons of the past, while setting the stage for new groups and perspectives to move forward.

The decision of who these participants exactly will be will be made after the pilot’s launch, with the advice and collaboration with a number of Karibu’s already existing partners, and nominated from organisations/movements that have been invited to submit suggestions. The Karibu Board has given some guiding principles about what qualities the participants should possess.

7. Mechanics of the process: Karibus staff (along with selected partner organizations) have worked to develop a model that would best serve the aims and purposes of the pilot. This model

therefore aims to ensure that the participants are active builders and owners of the pilot, that there will be a learning, evaluation, and adaption process during the entirety of the pilot, and that there are some mechanisms to avoid conflict of interest when it comes to grantmaking. The pilot will therefore have two “cycles,” where each group can build and adapt the pilot. When participants are involved in the group, the organization/movement that has nominated them will not be eligible to receive funds from the pilot. Participants will further define other potential areas of conflict of interest and how to deal with them.

8. Remuneration for participants: A system for this remuneration will be developed by the Karibu Foundation and will be clarified with the organization/movement nominating the individual participant before participation in the group is contracted.
9. Research component: The research component of the pilot can be understood as a strategic and vital added value to the pilot, in order to both gauge the impact of the pilot itself but also its impact on changing systems of power.

The research will be done in collaboration with the *Centre for social entrepreneurship and collaborative social innovation (SESAM)* at the University of Southeast Norway, as well as a yet to be determined African research institution/university.

The research framework will be defined by Karibu, SESAM, and the participants themselves, and the researcher will follow the research guidelines and the structure of the pilot. The researcher will contribute to the internal dialogue of the pilot from the position of the research mandate, yet to be formulated.

Competence related to research will be brought in at an early stage of the project, in order to consolidate the research component.

Costs associated to the research are independent from the costs allocated for this pilot.

10. Reporting: A very general framework for the reporting from the implementation of the pilot has been set. The participants of the grantmaking group will further develop the reporting framework and content, and also independently consider other components in the reporting structure. Karibu will consider other reporting components like the findings and recommendations emerging from the research
11. Role of Karibu: For legal reasons, the Karibu Board must formally “approve” all grants. The Board, however, sees this pilot as an experiment in shifting power and demonstrating additional trust and joint accountability with the movements in the South that it supports.