Insights and Invitations

November 21, 2022
Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Presentation of Insights
3. Discussion
4. Organizational Update
5. Discussion
6. Invitations to Organizations, Investors and Governments
7. Criterion’s Standing Invitations
8. Closing Reflections
Introductions:
Name, Organization.
How do you partner with Criterion? (or hope to)
For current partners, how has our partnership affected your work?
Insights
Shift Narratives in Innovative Finance: Actors working in innovative finance actively address power, privilege, and bias through investment process, structures, and analysis in order to advance gender equality and social justice.

ARISE Consortium with ANDE and Gender Smart (now 2X Global) to raise the bar in gender lens investing (funded by Global Affairs Canada) by naming standards for shifting practices.

Analysis of Coralus (formerly SheEO) portfolio to identify ways activators can disrupt power dynamics.

TOOLKIT expansion pack for gender and power analysis.

Launch of a podcast to spur dialogue about power.

“Fix the capital, not the company”
**Unleash the Power of Policy:** Government agencies use their power to align their innovative finance programs with the boldest ambitions of their social and gender policies and, through that influence, increase what is expected of organizations using finance to increase gender equality and social justice.

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<tr>
<th>Building ties between our research on Afghanistan to the response in Ukraine</th>
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<td>Harmonizing guidance around the OECD DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker – in partnership with European Commission</td>
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<td>Collaborating on a white paper on the dynamics in the current delivery of technical assistance</td>
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<td>Learning the skill and the importance of mapping political economy of government actors (and other audiences)</td>
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Value the Future of Equality: Investors assign value in their investments today through a methodology that recognizes a future where social change organizations have achieved social justice and gender equality.

Investment thesis tied to the future of children in partnership with UNICEF

Predictive modeling of investment risk tied to GBV

Insights from Convergence XIX on the connection between imagination and the future
Invite Financial Imagination: Social change organizations design and implement strategies that use investments and engage systems of finance into their work to increase social and gender equality.

Integrating concepts and commitments in “localization” into innovative finance.

Designing vehicles that address power dynamics in agricultural finance, particularly in the Pacific Islands.

Learning about how to foster a Feminist Financial Imagination

Exploring possibilities in web 3.0 (with a power and gender lens)

*Report on feminist financial imagination coming soon!
Feminist Financial Imagination

Feminist Financial Imagination is a solutions-oriented mindset that facilitates the formation of new ideas, visioning of alternate futures, and/or uncovering of possibilities that would ensure the power and tools of financial systems are channeled toward advancing gender equality and justice in transformative ways.

A Feminist Financial Imagination requires us to engage creatively with possible alternatives to patriarchal structures and reorganizations of power. It is not a new field in itself, nor is it a proxy for gender lens investing or other existing fields or movements.

Ultimately, a Feminist Financial Imagination challenges the status quo, rethinking how financial systems work and exploring how they can be used to unlock the potential for transformative, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable change.

“Imagination is the ultimate disrupter… When faced with unjust systems that seem insurmountable, imagination can encourage us not only to aspire to achieve change, but to actively pursue it.”

Patrick Gaspard
Former President of
Open Society Foundations
**Finance the Reduction of GBV:** Social change organizations, governments and investors design and implement strategies that effectively use finance to reduce gender-based violence.

- **Stewarding adoption as the research is done and the roadmaps are in place.**
- **Naming company indicators tied to GBV, particularly retention.**
- **Refining tools to support implementation in partnership with 2X through support the 2X GBVH working group.**
- **Rediscovering the power of the correlation between political risk and GBV in investments.**
Discussion
Organizational Update
Our Daily Practices are Led by Our Values

Grace
Grace compels us to embrace the world as it is and see its problems as places where new possibilities can emerge. When grace is a fundamental value, we trust that there is a pathway to a better future. It comes as a gift, but we are partners in discovering it. We also experience grace in the way wisdom emerges from unexpected sources.

Hospitality
The ancient understanding of hospitality leads us to welcome strangers, trusting that they will bring unexpected gifts and that we will be changed in the genuine encounter with them.

The Power of Invitation
Relationships begin with invitation. Invitation has the power to expand, strengthen, and deepen pathways to meaningful participation. The invitation itself makes a difference regardless of what the eventual response may be. Invitation is a form of power that does not coerce, but instead opens a door that allows the other to take a step they might not have otherwise. This form of power is potentially available to everyone.
## Organizational Stats

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 years</td>
<td>of transformative work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Programs</td>
<td>(Translation, Process Standards, Localization, Roadmaps, Future Modeling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>team members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8M revenue</td>
<td>in 2022, projecting modest growth in 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 core funding partners</td>
<td>(in 2022), primarily foundation and government dollars</td>
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<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>friends and allies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 members</td>
<td>of the Board of Directors</td>
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<td>2 Advisory Boards</td>
<td>growing to 5 in 2023</td>
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Vision of the Organization

- Porous organizational boundaries
- Launchpad for people creating brave change in the world
- Standardization of processes to enable complex system change work
- Funding and partners deeply aligned with impact
## Theory of change

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Intended Result</th>
<th>Scope and scale of audience</th>
<th>Targeted</th>
<th>Broad</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Understanding</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teaching:</strong></td>
<td>Build capacity through training and tools</td>
<td><strong>Learning:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Imagination</strong></td>
<td><strong>Design:</strong></td>
<td>Innovate approaches to using finance to create social change</td>
<td><strong>Amplification:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Will to act</strong></td>
<td><strong>Influence:</strong></td>
<td>Encourage individuals or institutions to take specific actions</td>
<td><strong>Field-building:</strong></td>
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Systems Change Guidance

What we have learned about how systems change happens?
Investing in Living our Work Out Loud

The Criterion Institute Podcast

New website in the new year that will be a library of resources

Commitment to broadcasting insights as they emerge
A short story of resilience.
Reflections on alignment between organizational design and values. What parallels do you see in your own journey?
Invitations
Social Change Organizations

- Develop your capacity and your business model as a “Translation” organization, that can bridge between finance and gender expertise
- Support social justice and feminist leaders to develop a financial imagination
- Identify connections between data and analysis in your organization and the analysis that informs investment decisions
- Explore where systems of finance can be integrated within advocacy strategies
Investors

- Make a commitment to use investments to address GBV
- Take up process standards and use your power to address power dynamics.
- Join the ARISE Investor Working Group (for asset owners)
- Build an experience to guide investors addressing their power

Take up insights and implement in context:
- Coralus insights
- Agricultural finance
- Expansion of MH TFV
Learn with us about the overlap between feminist foreign policy and innovative financing practices.

Hold innovative finance partners to standards that address power dynamics.

Shift requirements in research and implementation approaches tied to innovative finance to value gender experts and analysis.

Join our “donor agency working group,” part of the ARISE grant to be able to collectively raise the bar.
# Standing Invitations

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<td>Convergence in September</td>
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<td>Open invitation to our weekly “Synthesis Calls”</td>
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<td>Bi-monthly TOOLKIT trainings</td>
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<td>Quarterly systems change trainings</td>
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<td>Bi-monthly office hours</td>
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<td>Expanded advisory boards tied to the five pillars of our strategic plan</td>
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<td>Next Insights and Invitation in May</td>
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Reflections.
What invitations do you hope to respond to or create in the new year?