

Geographic philanthropic pooled funds definition

Geographic philanthropic pooled funds are gifts restricted by the donor to a geographic country or region but have no restrictions nor any obligations regarding their usage for particular partners/interventions or thematic programming. Additionally, they do not stipulate that the gift be spent within a particular time period (requiring financial tracking), specify auditing requirements, nor the right of return. Essentially the donor's only requirement is that the funds be used in a particular country or region to further Water.org's mission.

This type of gift is desirable for the organization as it is left to the organization's discretion regarding how the funds are utilized within the designated geographic region or country, allowing for funds to be strategically directed.

Accounting treatment

Each country and regional pool will be assigned a unique code. Multiple gifts can be deposited into each pool. For example, the "Kenya Pool" will have a unique code. Any gifts restricted to Kenya can be deposited to that pool. Similarly, the "Africa Pool" will also have its own unique code. Gifts restricted to the Africa region will be deposited in the Africa Pool.

Finance will monitor the allocation and release of the geographic funds. At the end of each month, funds from each pool will be released to cover expenses in the relevant country or region that were previously charged to unrestricted. This monthly process will be handled entirely by the Finance team and no action is required on the part of country/regional staff to ensure personnel and overhead costs are charged to the pooled funds.

If it appears that geographic pooled funds are taking in more gifts than can be allocated to unrestricted expenses, Finance will alert Global Impact, triggering the Internal Fund Request process and enabling the respective country/region to apply for funds from the respective pool.

Impact treatment

When reporting impact to the donors, impact will be estimated using gift size and relevant corresponding country/regional cost per person found on the [Donor Impact Estimator](#).