

The First Sentier Foundation is First Sentier Investors' philanthropic initiative. Founded in 2012, its purpose is to support charitable organisations across the world that help to build sustainable lives through Education.

Our vision and mission

Our vision is a world where each person's education enables them to build a sustainable life – now and in the future.

Our mission is to fund work that supports people to gain the skills and knowledge to thrive throughout their life. We focus on supporting people of all ages who would not otherwise have these educational opportunities.

Our philanthropy is intrinsically linked to and informed by wider work at First Sentier Investors, including in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion, financial literacy, modern slavery, and climate action.

Through philanthropy and staff engagement, the First Sentier Foundation aims to deliver impact to communities where we live, work and invest.

For more background on our vision, mission and how we support education, please refer to our document on [Sustainable Livelihoods and Education](#).

Governance structure

The First Sentier Foundation is led by the Head of Corporate Philanthropy and is overseen by a Global Steering Committee chaired by our current CEO. The Global Steering Committee meet a number of times in the year to review applications for funding in line with our vision and mission. The First Sentier Foundation is also supported by Regional Committees which encourage philanthropic activity locally.

Working with charity partners

We aim to build strategic philanthropic partnerships with charities which align with our vision and mission.

We will consider both restricted and unrestricted funding but will prioritise funding for organisations which address the root causes of educational inequality, for example:

- Support for programmes that service disadvantaged communities

- Improve the availability and quality of education where opportunities are lacking
- Tackle educational inequalities
- Build expertise or skills to help people adapt to a changing world – such as the impacts of climate change

We will also look to partner with organisations which align with broader First Sentier Investors' values, including our commitment to long-term social change, and are open to the First Sentier Foundation developing a closer relationship with them through staff engagement and volunteering.

What we can't fund

The First Sentier Foundation will not support programmes which:

- Support people to build sustainable livelihoods through means other than education
- Improve access to education for people who are already well-served
- Provide emergency disaster relief (except where there is an education focus)

The First Sentier Foundation will also not support donations or volunteer participation in the following activities:

- Activities that may potentially harm our reputation
- Activities that could be detrimental to public health and safety
- Activities that may be construed as discriminatory
- Illegal activities
- Activities that may result in an actual or potential conflict of interest
- Political activity or political lobbying
- Activities that explicitly promote the adoption of a religion or faith
- Activities that pose an unacceptable risk to the health and safety of any participants
- Activities that involve, or may be construed as involving, the provision of financial advice
- Protest groups
- Activities that promote or encourage gambling, smoking, alcohol or any substance abuse

For more information, please contact us [here](#).

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