



Backing partners in Africa for self-determined and resilient futures

Advancing equity through health, opportunity and voice

Africa is a region of rising global influence, shaped by the world's youngest populations and a new generation of leaders. Yet access to healthcare, opportunity, and voice remains uneven, constrained by persistent systemic challenges and global power imbalances.

We support partnerships that respond to these challenges by improving services, strengthening systems and contributing to a more self-determined, resilient and connected Africa.

Our approach is pan African and adaptive, shaped by regional diversity and grounded in trusted partnerships. We work with organisations embedded in the communities and systems they serve. We prioritise women, girls and youth, particularly in marginalised communities, while recognising that inclusive community development benefits all. Our work focuses on three strategic areas:

Strengthening public health systems and delivery

We support efforts to expand healthcare, grow and equip the health workforce, improve supply chains and local manufacturing, and strengthen health infrastructure, policy and financing. We prioritise maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health, sexual and reproductive health, water and sanitation, climate related disease and digital delivery systems.

Advancing inclusive digital & green economic growth

We fund initiatives that build inclusive, climate smart economies. This includes expanding access to finance, secondary and vocational training, technology and markets across sectors such as agriculture, IT, manufacturing, critical minerals and renewable energy. We also support food and nutrition systems, regenerative agriculture and natural resource governance.

Investing in African leadership, voice & regional influence

We support African led efforts to strengthen regional coordination, leadership and participation in shaping global and regional systems. This includes advocacy, regional learning, leadership development, institution building and the arts.

Our other portfolios:

Innovation

People everywhere can define and drive radical, positive change.

We support visionary individuals, bold organisations and transformational collaborations that are innovating for impact. We invest in early ideas and transition-to-scale efforts. The portfolio is simultaneously global and grounded in lived experience and community.

Our initial focus is Urban Futures: improving the liveability, inclusivity, safety and resilience of urban environments, creating places that are more vibrant, joyful, ready for growth and change.

Australia

Our vision is equity for women and girls in Australia.

With a focus on economic equity, freedom from violence, and justice, we prioritise First Nations women and girls, marginalised migrant and refugee women and girls, older women, and those living in rural and remote areas. We also support work that benefits their children. Our work centres on:

- Investing in Sydney's support sector and strengthening systems at scale
- Backing First Nations women's leadership and economic participation
- Addressing the criminalisation of women and girls and improving access to justice



About the Judith Neilson Foundation

We invest in people, places, and ideas to tackle inequality and help communities thrive. Based in Sydney, we work across Australia and Africa, and globally through our Innovation Portfolio. Through strong partnerships, we support solutions led by those most affected and best placed to drive change.