



The Queen's Commonwealth Trust

**Helping young people lead transformational change
every day, all around the world.**

Welcome: Advancing Youth Impact

The Queen's Commonwealth Trust (QCT) was launched on April 21st 2018 in recognition of Her Majesty The Queen's lifetime of service to others and her love for the Commonwealth and its young people. With Her Majesty's blessing, the Diamond and Silver Jubilees focused on young people helping others. The Lord Lieutenants played an active role, alongside local communities, in celebrating and supporting the work of amazing young leaders in the UK and around the globe. QCT carries this legacy forward.

Around the world, we are facing urgent challenges. Covid-19 has shown us that we depend on each other and we need to work differently, together, to make the world a better place. To bring about positive change, it is vital that funding and support goes to the right place.

For the Platinum Jubilee, QCT is open for donations to support young people who are driving transformational results in their communities - in education, healthcare, employment, the environment and more. Less than 0.1% of international aid goes to leaders like them, the ones most affected by the challenges and with solutions that work. Their collective potential is enormous. We want to unlock it.

QCT provides three key elements founders tell us they need to succeed:

Flexible Funding

Because young entrepreneurs know their work best and where investment is needed.

Practical Tools

to help strengthen their organisations and build strong and resilient systems of financial management, governance and impact tracking.

A Global Network

of like-minded young entrepreneurs, providing an ecosystem of advice, support and encouragement. This is the QCT Network Hub.

We will demonstrate the difference these ventures make to the communities where they operate. We want to build a movement of supporters, who together will help drive more investment to the interventions that work. There is no time to lose. Together, we can secure the future we all want to see.

IF YOU HAVE COMMUNITY GROUPS, SCHOOLS, BUSINESSES OR INDIVIDUALS WHO WANT TO MAKE A DONATION TO THANK HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN FOR THE PLATINUM JUBILEE BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GIVE, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW ABOUT QCT.



Flexible Funding

QCT provides flexible grants and works with young people for at least two years. It selects organisations working across the UN Sustainable Development Goals that are at a tipping point, where support at the right time can make a big difference.



Flexible funding for maximum impact

Flexible (unrestricted) funding is rare but highly valuable as it allows founders to choose to invest where it will have the best effect. We work closely with founders to monitor performance regularly and focus on impact and results.



Young people at the heart of our grant-making

QCT's grant-making strategy is developed with young people who know and understand the pressures young founders face. They help with grants assessments and monitoring and ensure we focus on the criteria that matter most for impact. They continue to play a growing part in our work.



**FUNDING AT A
TIPPING POINT
FOR IMPACT**



BESPOKE SUPPORT



UP TO £20,000 P/A

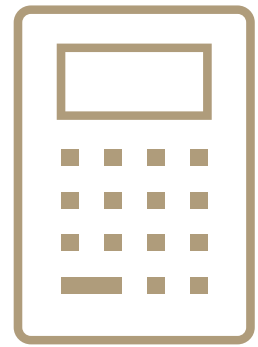


**2+ YEAR
RELATIONSHIP**

Practical Tools and Guidance

We work side by side with founders and their teams to identify key areas of improvement for their organisations. We follow this with bespoke training and practical advice to help them build strong and resilient systems and strengthen their organisations.

This support helps to make them more sustainable and more attractive to donors and investors, and ultimately deliver more value for others.



**FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT**



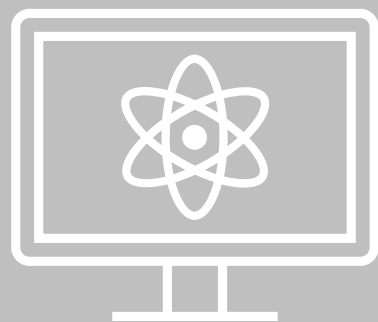
GOVERNANCE



**IMPACT
TRACKING**



SAFEGUARDING



This offer will be extended online during 2021 so more young people, beyond those we fund, can get free access to the information they need to strengthen their organisations.

Our Global Network

The work that founders undertake is challenging and complex. Making change is hard and leadership can be lonely. We provide access to a mission-aligned global network that helps founders support each other and access insights and resources to further their work and impact.

Our network comprises over 850 people around the world who are driving positive change.

The QCT Network Hub is where they come together to learn, share ideas and collaborate. Every UN SDG is represented, with members in each of the 54 Commonwealth countries, including from Indigenous communities and marginalised groups.



Generous Leadership

Members are aged 18–35 who are actively leading and effecting positive social change. Candidates are qualified through an application and due diligence process.

Once they join the family, there are two key elements of their membership:

- 1 A commitment to contribute to the network and share knowledge and support with others.**
- 2 Consultation on QCT's strategic direction, values, grants principles and more.**

Network Benefits

- ✓ Connect and collaborate with likeminded others
- ✓ Access to events, opportunities and partner offers
- ✓ Opportunities to feature on QCT website and social channels
- ✓ Option to apply for grants and technical support
- ✓ Exclusive access to training, guest webinars and digital meetups
- ✓ Chances to lead "platform takeovers" and host sessions and courses
- ✓ FUN! A place to laugh, escape and share experiences with others who understand

Our Impact

QCT is striving for a world where young people are equal partners in driving change. We track the value and impact of our work at the societal, organisational and individual level for those we work with.

SOCIETAL ISSUES EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSED

14 SDGs supported across **59** active grants in **23** countries with all funded organisations increasing their reach and impact

WIDER SUPPORT FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP

96% of network members say QCT helps young people act as equal partners in driving change

87% of those featured on QCT digital platforms say it generated more interest in their work**



ORGANISATIONAL STRENGTH & RESILIENCE

100% of QCT-funded organisations improve their finance, governance and safeguarding systems with our support

FOUNDER CONFIDENCE, CAPABILITY & CREDIBILITY

86% of network members feel more confident in their leadership through working with QCT*

88% of network members say working with QCT gives them more credibility*

Impact in Action with Eco Brixs: Creating value from plastic waste

QCT has worked with Eco Brixs since 2018, providing funding and support at a pivotal moment for the organisation as it was poised and ready for growth.



CONTEXT

Plastic pollution and unemployment are major dual issues in Uganda. Over 90% of plastic waste is sent to landfill or burnt illegally, and 83% of 15 to 24-year-olds are unemployed.



SOLUTION

Eco Brixs is a social enterprise with a business model that transforms plastic waste into marketable products and creates jobs for the local community.



IMPACT

Income opportunities created for 3,000+ people to date and 350+ tons of plastic repurposed into eco-friendly building materials, face shields for front line workers and other eco-products.

HOW QCT SUPPORT HAS DRIVEN GROWTH AND INVESTMENT FOR ECO BRIXS

Unrestricted funding from QCT enabled Eco Brixs to rapidly expand their operations by:

- ✓ Purchasing a collection truck
- ✓ Hiring 6 new staff members
- ✓ Investing into their first full machine line

This allowed them to efficiently scale up their recycling system, open 3 new collection sites and fast-track taking new products to market, getting them closer to becoming financially sustainable through sales. Working with QCT has helped Eco Brixs earn the attention and support of other funders nationally and internationally, including from organisations like Tear Fund.



QCT was the first major funder to believe in our vision and has been more than essential to how we have grown to the size we are now. You've always trusted our judgement, been supportive and understand the challenges and difficulties of growing a small grassroots organisation, particularly the importance of unrestricted funding."

ANDY BOWNDS
CO-FOUNDER
OF ECO BRIXS



Support Young Leaders with QCT

In 2022 QCT is celebrating Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and lifetime of service, through a **Platinum Jubilee Fund for Young Leaders.**

The Fund will act as a lasting tribute to Her Majesty's dedication to others. Any organisation, club, society or individual wishing to support an inspiring cause for the Platinum Jubilee could join in the celebration through QCT. This is our Platinum Partnership campaign.

It will:

- ✓ Unlock support for the next generation of change-makers
- ✓ Get behind an inspiring cause, borne from the last Jubilee
- ✓ Receive the recognition associated with this prestigious occasion

With the support of the Commonwealth community, through this Fund we will be able to:

- ✓ Expand our support and reach young leaders in two more Commonwealth regions with grants, bespoke advice and network access
- ✓ Develop our digital curriculum and provide free online training to thousands more young people
- ✓ Maintain, nurture and grow our unique global network of young change-makers into a powerhouse for learning, collaboration and change
- ✓ Help even more young people lead transformational change every day, all around the world.

78% of all funds raised are spent directly on supporting young leaders. The remaining 22% is spent on ensuring that QCT is an efficient and accountable organisation, funded at a level that will sustain its work with young leaders into the future.



We believe investing in young people can secure a sustainable future for us all.

Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee with us.

To donate to The Platinum Jubilee Fund or to find out more contact Nikki.Skipper@qct.org.uk

