Using Impact / Programme Related Investments to support social change (and education, arts and the environment)

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Fondation de
France



Some definitions

- Language alert: same words used to mean different things and different words to mean the same thing
 - e.g. Program Related Investment has a specific US meaning (investing from spend requirement); UK meaning of Programme Related Investment is typically from endowment and in pursuit of charitable mission
- It helps to know where you are on the spectrum
 - Range from Responsible Investment, to Socially Responsible Investment, to "finance first" impact investment, to "mission first" social impact investing....to grant making



Historical & philosophical

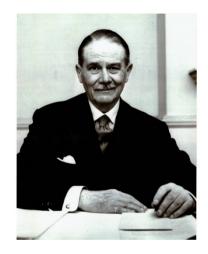
- The mainstream financial markets have become less "social" more detached from the general economy
 - The gap between the mainstream and where we are seems wider
- There is a "break" between general finance and the charity, social enterprise and solidarity economy
 - The pensions, savings products, and regular flows of money in the economy are not usually invested in the not for profit social economy
- While the recession, financial crisis and austerity drive interest in social investment, the above factors still apply, unless we do something different



EFF Background

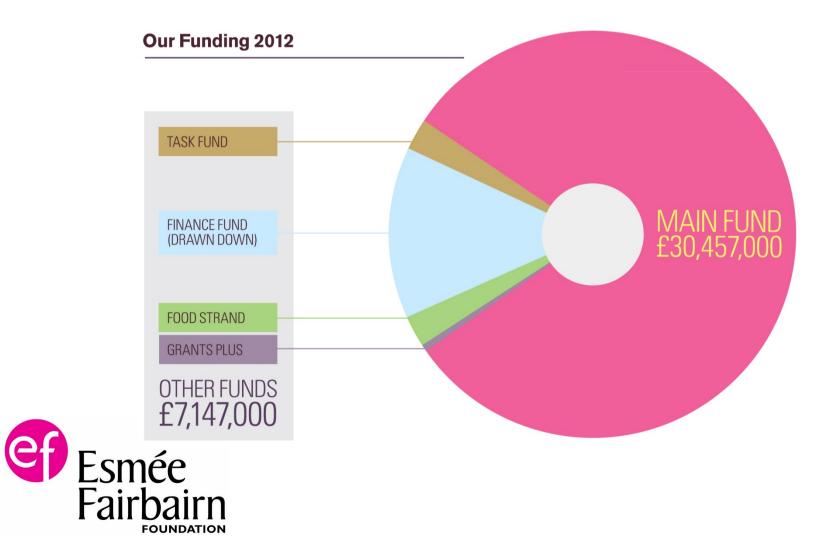
- 1961 established by Ian Fairbairn
- Independent Trust in the name of his wife, Esmee
- All his shares in M&G Investments
- £850m endowment (expendable)
- Interest in financial education, enterprise and new ideas to improve the quality of life in the UK
- Four broad areas of interest:
 - Education
 - Environment
 - Social change
 - Arts and Heritage





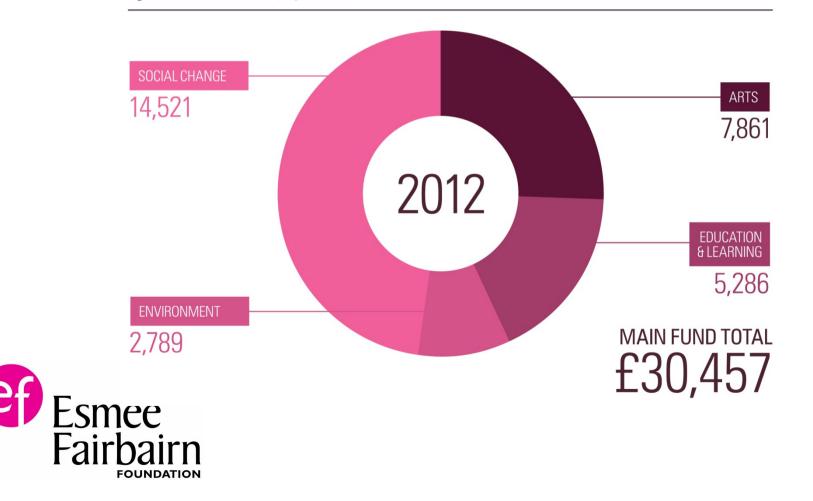


Our funding



Breakdown of grants

Breakdown of Main Fund spend by sector in 2012 (£,000s)



Finance Fund – why we did it

- We have an interest in new sources of funding for charity
- Charities need finance for the same reasons as any SME
- Legal structures and practices make access to conventional finance more difficult









We started organically

- 1997 £150,000 to on-lend to charities
- 2003 Golden Lane Housing Bond
- 2004/5 two property loans
- 2005 intermediaries (CAF Venturesome, Charity Bank)
- ...then we piloted 2005-2007
- Then we ran a pilot fund, the "Finance Fund".....2008 to present day



Finance Fund

- •Commitments: £35m to achieve £26m drawn
- •£24m historic commitments, £17m historic drawdown
- •Repayments: £4.9m of capital has been repaid to us to date.
- •Provisions: we have made £0.6m of provisions to date (of which write-offs are £0.1m).
- Average investment size: £364K
- Average term of investments: 7 years
- 2.6% IRR (before costs) 1.7% after costs?



How we do it

- Direct investments into enterprises and charities
- Where we see a pattern, look for funds and intermediaries to do it better and lever in additional funds

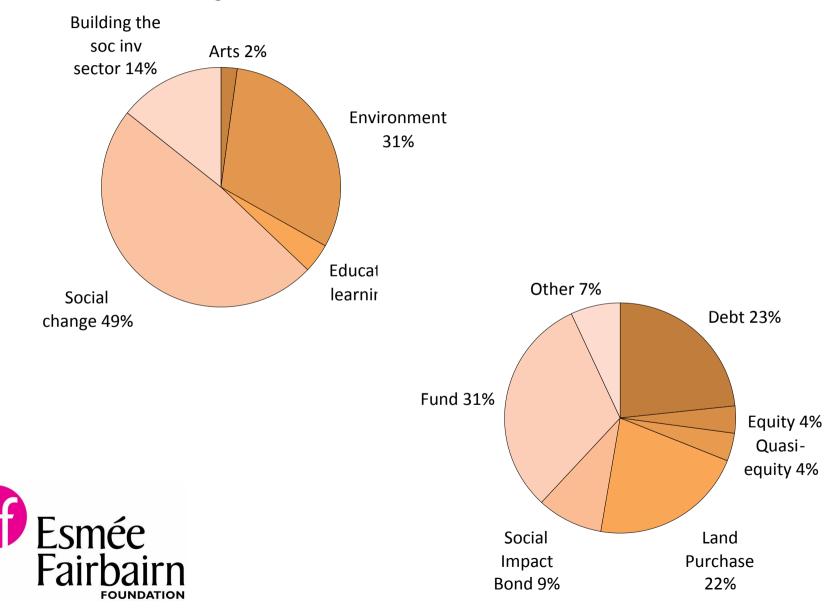








By sector and asset

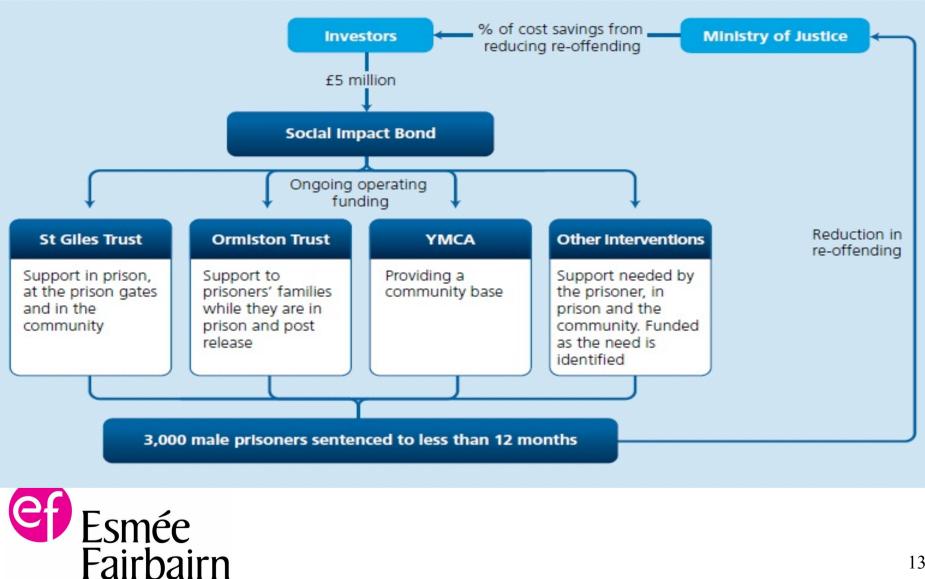


Sometimes it looks like this.....



....and sometimes it looks like this

FOUNDATION



Challenges

- The skill set needed crosses the traditional foundation divide – needs both finance (investment) and grant making (understanding the social problem) skills
- Everything changes all the time; our portfolio is a series of waves of innovation we have backed
- Finding good deals and intermediaries in our areas of interest; improving, but you have to be patient
- It is not for every foundation; grants are important and needed



Solutions

- Learn from the investments;
 - a big advantage to the indirect investments (sit on their advisory board, observe Investment Committee)
- Use investees for analysis/due diligence outsourcing
 - Pay a fee to them to work for you
 - Specialist advisors emerging
- Work with others
 - Social Impact Investors Group 55+ people in trusts and foundations
 - SIIG market information days;
 - presentations by people raising investment; draws in other social investors too



Smaller foundations are engage

- Bank Workers Charity
 - Allocated £1m of endowment (c. £35m total size)
- Barrow Cadbury, Lankelly Chase, Friends Provident:
 - 5%/10% of endowments; £3m £5m.
- Panaphur, KL Felicitas
 - £10m impact allocations (100% of endowment)
- City Bridge, Esmee
 - £20m, £26m/£35m

What does this mean:

Most impact investing foundation allocations are "small"



What does the future look like?

- Remember the past
 - We have done this all before, generation by generation
 - Our experience might mirror the past
- Continued growth
 - Mainstream will redefine itself as impact investing
 - Some impact investing markets will prove themselves, get a track record and transition from uncertainty to risk
 - It will be easier; more choice, more people, greater familiarity



How to make the future happen

- Make it someone's problem (job) in the organisation, part time initially
- Plan simply what you want to do, based on what you want to achieve as a foundation; or embrace 'the strategy of no strategy'
- Use advisors to help you assess and understand investments that meet the plan; often "sole traders"
- Start quickly and for as long as possible, experiment, pilot, test, trial and examine; or claim you are doing so
- Work with other "fellow travellers" on the road and share honestly and openly



and.....enjoy the journey