FairSpirit Policy Plan (2025–2027)

Introduction

The FairSpirit Foundation is dedicated to combating poverty and inequality, striving to promote a dignified existence for all. The foundation seeks to achieve this goal through structural solutions for a livable future, particularly by advocating for a universal basic income (UBI).

To this end, FairSpirit will explore the most effective and feasible ways to implement basic income. We will pilot basic income projects using innovative systems such as GoodDollar, Circles, and others. The foundation will begin with small-scale projects and aims to expand over time. We will build partnerships with organizations that share our vision of universal basic income. Active fundraising will be a key element to ensure the sustainability and growth of our initiatives.

Technology

Several initiatives have emerged in recent years to realize basic income on a larger scale using digital currencies, such as GoodDollar and Circles. FairSpirit will explore the potential of these technologies alongside more traditional financial instruments.

GoodDollar

GoodDollar has its own currency that anyone can claim daily as a basic income. While the value of this basic income is currently low, ongoing efforts aim to improve it. For example, the GoodDollar system can be used to distribute a higher basic income to specific groups. This makes it particularly interesting for projects in developing countries and contributes to the global scaling of universal basic income.

Circles

Circles is another promising technology. It is a community currency system where money is generated at the individual level, placing people at the center. Each member issues their own Circles token (CRC), which can be exchanged with trusted contacts or within a wider group. To participate, users must create a Circles wallet and gain the trust of at least three other members. We will explore the possibilities of Circles for our UBI projects.

Other Technologies

We are also monitoring several other technologies. BrightID is a privacy-first social identity network that allows individuals to prove their uniqueness without sharing personal data. This decentralized, open-source technology uses social graphs—connections verified by people who know you—to authenticate uniqueness and prevent multiple accounts. That is crucial for UBI systems, ensuring that each person can only claim their fair share.

Manna offers a similar UBI distribution from a slightly different perspective, and the Safaru network may also be worth further investigation.

More traditional financial instruments under consideration include local currencies, such as those from United Economy (e.g., Utrechtse Euro), and a FairSpirit permanent fund. Such a fund would grow its capital and distribute the interest as UBI. Another option is to cooperate with

initiatives like the U-pas or set up a "moneybank" system comparable to foodbanks/clothing banks/time banks and the like.

Projects

FairSpirit will explore different project setups using a diverse range of partners and technologies.

Basic Income Seed Groups

FairSpirit will identify and connect with local and international organizations interested in basic income to build project partnerships. Currently, we are reaching out to various organizations in developing countries to find local partners interested in exploring basic income projects together. Our focus is presently on developing countries, as even a small amount of basic income can make a significant difference there.

Our first projects are being developed with:

- Compassion for Humanity in Ghana

- Friends of Usambara in Tanzania

In these projects, we will start with an initial round of basic income of one dollar per day for a small group of up to ten women for three months, using GoodDollar. The local partner will monitor progress and collect information about the participants, which we will present on our website for fundraising purposes. Based on the results, we will conduct further fundraising for subsequent rounds, which may involve more participants or a longer duration, depending on the funds raised.

We will continue to explore additional potential partnerships in the coming years.

GoodCollective

GoodDollar is developing GoodCollective, which enables the distribution of a larger amount of GoodDollars to a broader group. Several pilots are currently underway. The most successful pilot is now distributing a basic income of 1,000 G$ (about $0.10) per day to a few hundred women in Nigeria. Once GoodCollective is further developed, we may use it to distribute basic income to larger groups.

Circles Groups

The new version of Circles introduces the concept of groups—a brand-new feature still under rapid development. These groups can be used for basic income distribution. FairSpirit will explore how this can be implemented. Currently, Circles is primarily focused on Europe, so we may initially explore possibilities in the Netherlands.

UBI4you

Inspired by UBI4All and Mein Grundeinkommen, we will distribute a small basic income to a random selection of people who sign up. They will receive one dollar per day (about $30 per month), streamed to their digital wallet for three months using the stablecoin USDGLO.

Anyone can sign up, but to prevent duplicate registrations, we will use Aura, the new verification method from BrightID, to ensure each participant is unique.

Local Currencies

Such seed distributions to randomly selected participants may also be interesting for local currencies, potentially boosting their user base. We will explore partnerships with local currency initiatives and possibly connect with systems like U-pas or United Economy.

Birenga

With BiRenga, we envision a pay-it-forward setup. The idea is to start with a small basic income for one person for three months (e.g., $1 per day, totaling $90). After three months, the participant can choose, with motivation, either one or two new participants to receive the next round. The total amount increases to $100, so either one participant receives $100 or two receive $50 each.

As long as funds remain available and the total amount continues to grow, participants will keep selecting one or two successors. The thoughtful and intentional selection of the next participant is essential to the success of this model. This process should align with the principles of flow funding, as outlined by Kinship Earth (see: https://www.kinshipearth.org/flow-funding).

Permanent Fund

When fundraising allows, we will investigate the option of establishing a permanent fund to grow capital and distribute the interest as UBI.

Fundraising

To finance these projects, FairSpirit will launch crowdfunding campaigns for donations. We will use our website, social media, email newsletters, and community outreach to maximize reach and engagement.

We will also seek sponsors for specific projects and apply for grants from funds that may wish to support one or more of our initiatives.

Conclusion

From 2025 to 2027, FairSpirit will focus on launching and expanding basic income projects using technologies like GoodDollar and Circles, building partnerships, and securing funding through crowdfunding campaigns. We will also seek sponsors and apply for project funding. This approach will lay a strong foundation for scaling basic income solutions and advancing our mission to combat poverty and inequality.