

Transitional Investment Portfolio Criteria & Letter of Inquiry

Swift Foundation aspires to use part of our endowment capital – the Transitional Investment Portfolio - as a catalyst for social, economic and environmental transformation. We envision a Just Transition from our broken and extractive economy to one that returns capital to communities and the earth, recognizes the assets of communities, and is in right relationship with people and the land. To this end, we have created our Transitional Investment Portfolio to invest in: entrepreneurs, businesses, non-profits, funds, and cooperatives who are deeply embedded in the communities and issues that they seek to transform. *Swift prioritizes entrepreneurs that align with our mission, thematic areas, and geographic regions while at the same time considers other innovative and visionary opportunities.*

Our Investment thesis includes several dimensions:

- We seek opportunities that are grounded in thoughtful business fundamentals.
- We seek a mix of opportunities: funds, direct investments, and seed investments.
- We seek a mix of returns with a goal of recycling capital OR proving a market rate return for an investment that can move into our core portfolio.
- We seek unique and visionary opportunities where our investment can leverage others.

We consider investments that have three or more of the following criteria:

1. Designed with communities (not for communities) for resilient local economies
2. Address inequities in access to finance with relevant resources and outreach
3. Include a holistic perspective recognizing community assets and/or biodiversity
4. Create wealth generation for excluded communities
5. Create healthy renewable cycles of production
6. Include efforts to address policy or structural change

Swift knows that integrated or blended capital is critical for many of the initiatives to succeed and we are sometimes the source of that capital for the entities we work with.

Letter of Inquiry

If you are interested in applying for a Swift investment and/or grant for a business, cooperative, purchase of land/building or fund, please provide the following in a two-page letter of inquiry or submit an already developed overview.

1. Describe the problem or challenge you seek to address.
2. Describe how the investment/business works (include links to relevant materials). How long has the investment/business existed?
3. Describe the capital you are requesting/investment terms: type (loan, guarantee, equity), amount, length of time, investment return, etc.
4. Provide names of other investors, if any.